



Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020- 2024



Bayfield County Board of Supervisors

George Newago

Thomas J Gordon

Larry Fickbohm

Harold A. Maki

Jeremy Oswald

Jeffrey Silbert

Dennis M. Pocernich, *Chairman*

Fred Strand, *Vice-Chair*

Thomas Snilsberg

Marty Milanowski

David Zepczyk

James A. Crandall

Brett T. Rondeau

The preparation of this report was completed by the Bayfield County Forestry & Parks Department.

Administrator
Jason Bodine

Recreation Forester
Jenifer Bratsch

Resolution

No. 2020-25

ADOPTING THE BAYFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN 2020-2024

WHEREAS, Bayfield County, has developed and maintained a local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan; and

WHEREAS, this plan is updated every five years to reflect the needs of local units of government, Tribal government, and various non-profit organizations that provide recreational opportunities for the public;

WHEREAS, this plan identifies existing recreation-based infrastructure and features that are managed and/or maintained by each entity, while also listing foreseeable outdoor recreation facility needs at various locations throughout Bayfield County, that can be adequately maintained for public use;

WHEREAS, the Forestry and Parks Committee approved this plan during their March 9, 2020 meeting; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors, meeting this 31st day of March 2020, hereby formally adopt the Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, as presented, as the official policy statement for the development and maintenance of outdoor recreation programs and facilities in Bayfield County.

BAYFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dennis M. Pocernich
Dennis M. Pocernich, *Chair*

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)ss.
BAYFIELD COUNTY)

I, Scott S. Fibert, Bayfield County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Volume 27, adopted by the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held on the 31st day of March 2020.

Scott S. Fibert
Scott S. Fibert, *Bayfield County Clerk*

Table of Contents

Introduction	5
Goals and Objectives.....	6
Definitions and Standards.....	7
Planning Process	9
Summary of Past Plans.....	10
Social & Physical Characteristics of the Region	11
Social Characteristics of the Region.....	11
Physical Characteristics of the Region	11
Existing Recreation Activities & Resources	13
Public Lands	13
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest	13
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	14
State Lands.....	14
County Lands.....	14
Water Resources.....	15
Lake Superior	15
Streams	15
Inland Lakes.....	15
Canoeing and Kayaking	15
Boating	16
Swimming.....	16
Fishing	16
Camping	16
Picnicking	17
Hiking	17
Biking.....	18
Golfing.....	18
Skiing	18
Snowshoeing.....	19
Horseback Riding	19
Hunting.....	19
Shooting Ranges.....	19
Motorized Trails	20

ATV	20
Snowmobile	20
Off-Highway Motorcycles	20
Scenic Byway.....	21
Historical and Architectural Sites in Bayfield County.....	21
Demand Assessment and Trends.....	23
Plan Recommendations	26
County Facilities	26
City Facilities	31
City of Bayfield	31
City of Washburn	41
Township Facilities	50
Town of Barksdale.....	50
Town of Barnes	50
Existing Facilities:	50
Town of Bayfield	51
Town of Bayview	54
Town of Bell	56
Town of Cable	58
Town of Clover	61
Town of Delta.....	62
Town of Drummond.....	62
Town of Eileen.....	63
Town of Grand View	63
Town of Hughes	64
Town of Iron River.....	65
Town of Kelly.....	66
Town of Keystone	66
Town of Lincoln.....	67
Town of Mason	67
Town of Namakagon	67
Town of Orienta	68
Town of Oulu.....	68
Town of Pilsen.....	68
Town of Port Wing	68

Town of Russell 69

Town of Tripp 72

Town of Washburn..... 73

Village Facilities..... 73

 Village of Mason..... 73

Tribal Facilities 74

 Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa..... 74

Introduction

Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin containing 967,670 acres and it has abundant land and water recreational resources. This updated plan will serve as a guide for the development of existing and future outdoor recreation areas and facilities in the county to meet the recreational needs of its residents and visitors.

The plan is a cooperative effort between Bayfield County and its many municipalities, one tribal government and non-profits. Development and adoption of this updated recreation plan will enable Bayfield County and other governmental entities in the county to be eligible to apply for a number of outdoor recreational grant programs including: the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program, the Aid for the Acquisition of Urban Green Space Program, Recreational Trails Program, and the Urban Rivers Grant Program.

Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is as follows:

Goal

Provide a guide for the development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities in Bayfield County to meet the outdoor recreational needs of county residents and visitors.

In order to help attain this goal, a number of plan objectives have been identified, including:

Objectives

1. Promote the development and maintenance of quality recreation areas, parks and facilities in the county.
2. Identify the responsibility of the county and other governmental entities within the county to provide areas and facilities for recreational activities.
3. Help protect important aesthetic and environmental resources in the county for recreational uses through acquisition, easements and zoning.
4. Identify the outdoor recreational needs in the county.
5. Provide eligibility to the county and other governmental entities within the county to apply for federal and state grant funding programs for outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Definitions and Standards

Definitions

Neighborhood Park

A neighborhood park provides open space for passive recreation for all ages within a neighborhood, particularly for the elderly and mothers with young children. An ideal neighborhood park site is scenic or wooded and located a maximum of one-quarter mile, which is normal walking distance, from primary users. Suggested minimum size for this type of park is one acre. Site development should include sidewalk, benches, landscaping and a designated tot lot with sandboxes and play devices for preschoolers.

Neighborhood Playground

A neighborhood playground is usually provided in conjunction with an elementary school and mostly serves the recreation needs of children 5 to 12 years of age. Its size is dependent on the types of activities it supports and facilities it provides. Playground apparatus, ball fields, basketball courts and open playfields are common in these areas. The service area for such a recreation area is highly variable, but too usually has a radius of one-quarter mile.

Community Park

This type of park usually serves several neighborhoods and is under municipal administration. Although size is not always a sound criterion for classifying parks, it is generally recognized that community parks are more spacious than neighborhood parks or playgrounds. In addition to the kinds of facilities provided at neighborhood parks, these parks may provide swimming pools, picnic areas, more elaborate playfields, shelter and toilet buildings and tennis courts. Community parks serve people of all ages and have an effective service area radius of one-half mile.

City-wide Park

A city-wide park may serve some or all types of a community's recreation needs. It can provide a wide range of activities for all age groups, or it can be very specific (i.e., a zoo). In addition to some of the facilities provided by other types of parks, city-wide parks may contain areas for nature study, hiking and riding trails, marinas, boat launching, pond fishing and numerous other activities. However, in many Wisconsin communities, a city-wide park is sometimes designated as such not because of its size and/or variety of recreation facilities, but because it is the only park available to the community.

Other types of parks can be found in some of Wisconsin's cities and villages. However, the ones defined here are sufficient to analyze recreation in Bayfield County. Comparisons of park definitions, areas and services should not be made among the State's municipalities. Each community is unique in its size and distribution of population; therefore, the classifications applied in a given community depend on how the community's parks function in meeting local recreation needs. For example, a given park might fall in any one of the four categories above, depending upon the community in which it is located, its particular location within that community, and their size, location and type of facilities.

Specialized Recreation Areas

Golf courses, historic sites, conservancy areas and floodplains are examples of specialized recreation areas. Most of these have limited active recreation value, are undeveloped for recreation, or are not always available for use by the public. Although such areas are not considered in current evaluations made for these municipalities, it must be realized that specialized areas are an important adjunct to a community and its parks program. As future evaluations of recreation opportunities in the county's cities and villages are undertaken, it may become necessary to include consideration of specialized recreation areas.

Standards

One of the most accepted ways of measuring the adequacy of a community's parks program is by determining the number of people it serves for has the capacity to serve. This is accomplished by assigning an acreage requirement for each type of park for each 1,000 persons in a community. Further, it is assumed that park distribution within the community is adequate. If such is not the case, careful attention should be given to location for new parks.

For purposes of this study the standard of 12 acres per thousand population is used as a basis for evaluating community programs. This acreage should be distributed among types of parks as follows:

Neighborhood Parks	2 acres/1,000 population
Community Parks	5 acres/1,000 population
City-wide Parks	5 acres/1,000 population
Total	12 acres/1,000 population

Other means of determining the effectiveness of a community's recreation program in meeting the needs of its citizens are related to the service areas of individual parks and to the type and quality of facilities offered. This is to say that a park must be accessible to the people it is intended to serve and it must provide a high quality recreation experience through its developed facilities and natural amenities. Deficiencies recognized within these categories are, to some extent, the result of a planner's judgment.

Planning Process

The process used to update the county's existing outdoor recreation plan, which was last adopted in 2015, was straightforward. Previous county outdoor recreation plans were first reviewed. In September 2019, a letter regarding the Bayfield County outdoor recreation plan update was sent to the 25 towns, 1 village, 2 cities, 1 Tribal government and several non-profits in the county. The letter explained that the Bayfield County Forestry and Parks Department was in the process of preparing an updated comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for the county. It mentioned that the plan would serve as a guide for Tribal and local units of government in acquiring and developing public outdoor parks and other recreation facilities, as well as ensuring that the minimum requirements for eligibility to participate in both state and federal grant programs are met.

As per the letter, communities were asked to review and update their previous list of recommended outdoor recreation facilities. New project recommendations were encouraged. Reviewers were directed to Bayfield County's website to review the existing plan and to fill out an online update form. The completed *Outdoor Recreation Facilities Inventory & Recommended Projects Form* was then submitted to the Bayfield County Forestry and Parks Department

The information received back from the various governmental units was then used to update the plan's outdoor recreation facility inventory and recommendations for outdoor recreation provisions sections.

Summary of Past Plans

Past Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans were adopted by the Bayfield County Board in 1981, 1990, 1995, 2006, 2010 and 2015. The 1981 and 1990 plans were drafted by Northwest Regional Planning Commission, the 1995 and 2010 plans were written entirely by the Bayfield County Tourism Department and the 2006 plan was written by the Tourism Department and the Bayfield County University of Wisconsin Extension. The 2015 plan was written by the Bayfield County Forestry and Parks department. Using the past outdoor plans as a blueprint, many significant improvements by Bayfield County and several of the communities have been accomplished.

Social & Physical Characteristics of the Region

Social Characteristics of the Region

The estimated 2018 population of Bayfield County is 15,042. This is a slight increase when compared to the 2010 census of 15,014.

The median age in Bayfield County is 52, indicating an older population than the State of Wisconsin, which has a median age of 39 years. The population projections foretell a future where the elderly will make up an increasingly larger share of total population. In 2018, an estimated approximately 28% of the population in Bayfield County was 65 years and older, compared to less than 17% for the State of Wisconsin.

The history of northern Wisconsin is much like that of the rest of the Upper Great Lakes Region. Logging, mining and agriculture were the basis of the first period of rapid growth. With the decline of these extractive industries came declines in population. In Bayfield County, the population never again reached the peaks attained in 1920 near the end of these early industrial booms. Many years of decline ensued before the rise of the tourism and recreation industry brought new growth. The importance of recreation is clearly shown in the 2000 Census data on recreational homes. Over 40 percent of the county's homes were recreational.

Physical Characteristics of the Region

The landscape of Bayfield County varies greatly from north to south. A range of hills 10 to 15 miles wide, known as the Bayfield Peninsula Ridge, lies in a northeast-southeast direction at the northeast corner of the county. The ridge is a terminal moraine left between two lobes of the retreating Wisconsin Ice Sheet.

To the southwest, the hills drop abruptly to flat Pine Barrens while to the northwest and southeast they reach Lake Superior. The sandy "Pine Barrens" is a flat plain extending in a belt 10 to 20 miles wide from Bayfield County across Douglas and northern Washburn into Burnett and Polk Counties. The name "Pine Barrens" is derived from the fact that the vegetation is largely jack pine savannah. The maximum elevation of 1700 feet above sea level is found at the top of Mt. Telemark in the Town of Cable in southern Bayfield County, while the minimum elevation is 602 feet above sea level at Lake Superior. Immediately south of these ridges lie a series of morainic hills pitted with kettles. Lakes occupy many of the kettles, and swamps and marshes are numerous and extensive. The Bibon Swamp, a large area of shrub wetland, is located in the east central part of the county on the White River.

Bayfield County is underlain by ancient (pre-Cambrian) sandstone and igneous rocks. The northern part of the county is underlain with Superior red sandstone, over which is a thick mantle of clay and gravel, forming an artesian slope. This produces an excellent source of underground water supply. Crystalline rock underlies the southern part of the county with granite outcropping common along the Marengo River at the western edge of Penokee Range. Glacial deposits, reaching 300 feet over bedrock in some places, cover most of the county.

The Continental Divide, which separates the St. Lawrence (Lake Superior) and Mississippi River drainage systems, passes through the southern part of Bayfield County. The major drainage streams which lie north of the Continental Divide and empty into Lake Superior are the White, Fish, Sioux, Pike, Sand, Siskiwit, Cranberry, Flag and Iron Rivers. The Namekagon and Totagatic Rivers, tributaries to the St. Croix, drain the southern part of the county. The Eau Claire River, also an important tributary to the St. Croix, drains the Eau Claire Chain of Lakes located in the upper-southwest corner of the county.

Lakes and ponds are particularly abundant in the southern and west central parts of the county. Large areas of the west central and north central upland are without surface waters because of the subsurface drainage through coarse-textured glacial drift and underlying sandstone.

Unique to this region of Wisconsin is Lake Superior's Apostle Islands shoreline. The Bayfield County mainland shore bordering Lake Superior is 86.62 miles in length, more than one-third of Wisconsin's Lake Superior shore.

Due to the influence of Lake Superior and two distinct geographical regions of Bayfield County, the climate varies to a certain degree. Temperatures along and near the shoreline are modified by Lake Superior, especially during the spring and summer seasons when the average is lower in comparison to the southern interior area. Winter extremes are more severe inland.

Mean snowfall in inches varies from 50 inches near Cable to around 75 along the Upper Bayfield Peninsula. Precipitation over the year (28.0 inches) averages slightly less than the state average. Snowfall generally provides excellent winter recreation conditions for skiing and snowmobiling.

Prevailing winds are westerly from early fall through early spring and easterly the remainder of the year. April is usually the windiest month with an average of 15 miles per hour. July and August are the least windy with averages of 11 miles per hour. Since 1916, only three tornadoes have been observed in Bayfield County.

Existing Recreation Activities & Resources

Public Lands

Bayfield County offers almost one half million acres of publicly owned or controlled lands, or roughly 51 percent of the gross County area. These lands include County Forest land and Parks; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Fish, Wildlife and Forest lands and Federal lands comprising of Fish and Wildlife, National Forest and National Parks. The following table illustrates the individual acreage of public lands in Bayfield County.

LAND OWNERSHIP - BAYFIELD COUNTY

Ownership	Acres	% of Total
Private	470,374	48.6%
Federal - National Forest	270,258	27.9%
County - County Forest	173,171	17.9%
State	27,056	2.8%
Municipal	8,814	0.9%
Federal - Other	8,539	0.9%
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	5,837	0.6%
County - Other	1,974	0.2%
National Scenic Riverway	1,287	0.1%
County - Parks	360	0.0%
Total	967,670	100.0%
Total Public Lands	496,936	51.4%

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

The Bayfield County unit of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest provides approximately 270,000 acres for a myriad of uses. This vast area is extremely valuable in terms of natural resources to not only the residents but all users of the Region. As is characteristic of the National Forest System, several types of recreational opportunities are available to visitors, some of which include swimming, berry picking, nature viewing, hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, skiing, snowshoeing and various forms of motorized recreation, etc. Virtually all forms of facilities are available at one or more of the designated recreation sites within Bayfield County.

At present there are 159 miles of designated snowmobile trails available to participants of snowmobiling in the CNNF. Trail opportunities for cross-country skiing are available at the Mt. Valhalla recreation area (north of Washburn), the Drummond Ski Trail (south of Drummond), and the Rock Lake National Recreation Trail (east of Cable).

Hunter walking trails has been established on the Washburn Ranger District to promote hunting on National Forest lands. The majority of the forest is open for hunting, fishing and camping.

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore consists of 21 islands and 12 miles of mainland shoreline. The islands are accessible via guided cruises, island shuttles, kayaks, sailboats, motorboats, guide services and boat charters. Bayfield County contains 4 of the 21 islands (Eagle, Sand, York and Raspberry), all of the mainland and the National Park Service Headquarters. Camping is available on most of the islands, as well as one location on the mainland (Little Sand Bay) and a single campsite on the mainland trail near the sea caves.

The Islands are home to nine lighthouses. Sandstone sea caves, formed by centuries of freezing, thawing and wave action, are seasonally accessible by water. In the winter, on the mainland, the sea caves transform into ice caves and are sometimes viewable via ice (Meyers Beach, conditions permitting). The sea caves/ice caves can also be viewed from above along the mainland trail.

Note: Madeline Island is not part of the National Park, but can be accessed by ferry most of the year and via an ice road in the winter (conditions permitting). Madeline Island has a year round residents in the Town of La Pointe, population 302.

State Lands

The Wisconsin DNR owns a little over 27,000 acres of land in Bayfield County. There are no state forest lands in Bayfield County so most of the DNR ownership is State Natural Areas and riparian corridors. The following are the DNR owned state natural areas in Bayfield County: Bark Bay Slough, Bibon Swamp, Big Rock Pines, Inch Lake, Jones Lake, Lake Two Pines, Lost Creek Bog, North Pikes Creek Boreal Forest, Nourse Sugarbush, Port Wing Boreal Forest, Sajdak Springs and White River Breaks.

County Lands

Collectively, Wisconsin's County Forests are the single largest public land base in the state of Wisconsin. In total, 30 Counties manage County Forests, covering a total of approximately 2.4 million acres.

Bayfield County manages the third largest County Forest program in the state, totaling approximately 173,000 acres. From north to south, the Forest extends across the entire length of Bayfield County, impacting many of the communities in the area.

Numerous recreational opportunities exist on the County Forest, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, trapping, nature viewing, hiking, biking, cross country skiing, trail running, horseback riding, dog sledding, snowmobiling and ATV/UTVing.

Water Resources

Lake Superior

Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world by surface area, with an area of 31,800 square miles (20,252,000 acres). Its length is 350 miles and its width is 160 miles.

Lake Superior provides excellent lake trout, Coho and brown trout fishing. In Bayfield County, lake access is provided at Port Wing, Cornucopia, Herbster, Little Sand Bay, Schooner Bay, Red Cliff, Bayfield, Port Superior and Washburn. Charter boats for lake trout trolling are available at most marinas.

The Lake Superior Water Trail is a network of mapped access points and recreational resources along Wisconsin's Lake Superior south shore. The Lake Superior Water Trail consists of two segments: a 40-mile segment from the St. Louis River to Port Wing and a 30-mile segment from Ashland to the Montreal River at the Wisconsin-Michigan state line. There is a published trail guide and online interactive map to help people find their way (<http://www.nwrpc.com/868/Lake-Superior-Water-Trail>).

Streams

Bayfield County has over 400 miles of streams classified as trout water, which provides some of the finest trout fishing in the State. Several streams are open for a special season before the regular trout season opens and, additionally, are also open longer in the fall. These streams provide excellent fishing for trout, which migrate upstream from Lake Superior. The majority of all streams are either Class I or Class II trout streams and support natural reproduction under favorable conditions. Stocking of trout is prevalent in the Class II streams to provide good fishing while those streams listed as Class III require extensive stocking in order to maintain suitable fishing conditions.

Inland Lakes

In terms of number and acreage, Bayfield County ranks high in the State for inland lake resources. Recent Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources surveys have listed 319 named lakes and 41 lakes, which have 100 acres or more in total acreage. In total, the county presently has 22,600 acres of inland lakes. Excellent fishing is found for walleye, northern pike, bass and panfish in many of the lakes. Fourteen lakes have muskellunge in them. The largest lake within the county is Lake Namekagon with approximately 3,200 surface acres. The deepest lake is Cisco Lake located in the south-central portion of the county with a depth of over 100 feet.

Canoeing and Kayaking

Bayfield County offers excellent river and lake canoeing. The White River and the Namekagon River provide excellent canoeing as do the hundreds of lakes in the county, particularly the Pike Lake Chain and the Eau Claire Lake Chain.

Bayfield County also offers many opportunities for great kayaking. Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands are very popular spots for sea kayaking. Several outfitters offer guided trips and equipment rental. The

White River offers some class 1 and class 2 rapids while the Namekagon River provides a more flatwater kayaking experience.

Boating

Because of its relationship to Lake Superior and the numerous inland lakes, Bayfield County offers more boating variety than any other county in the state. On Lake Superior, the climate and weather are favorable for recreational activities during the season of May through October. The inland lakes offer excellent recreational boating including the famous Eau Claire Lakes, Lakes Namekagon and Owen. The majority of the hundreds of smaller lakes provide excellent water quality.

Swimming

Bayfield County has many hundred feet of beach frontage in the county. Most of the beach frontage is along Lake Superior; however, the fact that the water temperature rarely gets high enough for most people to enjoy limits the real availability of Lake Superior for swimming. This frontage along Lake Superior is, nevertheless, extremely valuable in providing public lake access to the beach for other uses. The Forest Service provides three beaches with approximately 1,000 feet of water frontage. Three county parks also provide beaches with very adequate swimming facilities.

Fishing

With Lake Superior and numerous inland lakes, fishing is very popular in Bayfield County in all seasons. In Winter, early ice on Lake Superior offers great shallow-water fishing for many different species and inland lakes provide great ice fishing opportunities as well. Spring is the peak time for fishing on both Lake Superior and inland lakes with warming waters and spawning season. Bayfield County also has several streams including class I trout streams that provide good fishing opportunities for trout and salmon.

Camping

Public Campgrounds - The existing supply of public campgrounds spans a wide range of quality amenities and locations, from rustic sites with the minimal of facilities through new sites designed for RV's and trailers. Bayfield County has excellent, well-maintained County owned and operated campgrounds as well as three rustic yurts in the towns of Bayfield and Cable. Big Rock, Twin Bear Lake and Delta Lake Park Campgrounds all offer other amenities such as fishing and picnicking along with abundant natural scenery. Excellent camping is also available in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF), at the Red Cliff Marina, at Little Sand Bay and within the Cities of Washburn, Bayfield, Herbster, Drummond, Iron River and just outside Cornucopia.

The Washburn and Great Divide Ranger Districts of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest are located within Bayfield County. These two Ranger Districts offer 6 developed campgrounds along lakes within the County. A wide variety of activities are available for campground visitors. Boating, hiking, fishing, hunting, berry picking, and bird watching are just a few popular recreational opportunities.

Campground facilities are designed to provide suitable places for pitching a tent, parking a recreation vehicle (RV), or setting up a pull behind camping trailer. Each site has a picnic table, fireplace, and a designated parking area. Drinking water is available and is tested for purity and quality.

National Forest campgrounds in Bayfield County include:

- * Namekagon Lake - 34 sites (Great Divide Ranger District)
- * Birch Grove - 16 sites (Washburn Ranger District)
- * Wanoka Lake - 20 sites (Washburn Ranger District)
- * Perch Lake - 16 sites (Washburn Ranger District)
- * Horseshoe Lake - 11 sites (Washburn Ranger District)
- * Two Lakes - 94 sites (Washburn Ranger District)

Private Campgrounds -- The present supply of private campgrounds is 16 and will likely increase in the future as campground use is increasingly popular.

Picnicking

There are excellent opportunities for picnicking throughout the county. The distribution of picnic areas is good, as all parts of the county have facilities located nearby. Several of the most scenic sites are found in parks within the small villages. The National Forest offers several very well-designed picnic areas that reflect the environmental qualities of the county.

Hiking

Hiking trails are numerous in this county in comparison to many other counties within the state. The Bayfield County Tourism office publishes a brochure listing 39 hiking trails that span the county, most of which are detailed in the following pages.

Two interpretive nature trails are located in the CNNF near the Lake Namekagon area in southeast Bayfield County: the Namekagon Nature Trail located just across the road from the Namekagon Lake Campground and the Forest Lodge Nature Trails on Garmish Road off of County Highway M. The National Forest works cooperatively with the Cable Natural History Museum to lead interpretive walks along the Forest Lodge Nature Trails.

Approximately 48 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail traverses through Bayfield County. This segment is part of the longest National Scenic Trail in the country that will stretch from North Dakota to New York when 100% completed. As the trail winds through state parks and the CNNF, it offers a premier hiking opportunity through a variety of landscapes. Hunter walking trails in the National Forest, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and County provide additional miles of trail opportunities for hikers.

Many miles of old closed or lower level managed Forest Service roads also may be used for hiking and other trail related activities, such as snowshoeing, dog sledding, or back country skiing.

Biking

Bayfield County offers a variety of cycling opportunities for all levels of riders, including hundreds of miles of low traffic paved roads that offer enjoyable road cycling throughout the county. Popular routes include Lake Owen Drive and Pioneer Rd. near Cable, Delta-Drummond Road and Scenic Drive in Delta and Drummond, FR 236/Brinks Road near Ino, and Cty Hwy C from Washburn to Cornucopia to Bayfield, among many others. The North Coast Cycling Association works to promote all forms of cycling in the northern part of the county. Various bike maps are available from the County Tourism Office.

The Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA) has seven clusters of off-road (mountain) bike trails that start in Bayfield County and travel through and end in Sawyer County. The clusters located in Bayfield County are: Delta, Drummond, Cable, Mt. Ashwabay, and Namakagon, with most of the trails located on either Bayfield County Forest or U.S. Forest Service lands.

In addition, gravel road riding has gained great popularity across the region due to the large number of well-maintained Forest Service and town roads throughout the area. CAMBA has developed an area map and several online assets that identify recommended gravel routes from Washburn in the north to Cable in the south and into northern Sawyer County. The Washburn District of the CNNF has published maps for biking on forest roads (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/cnnf/recreation/bicycling>) and the North Coast Cycling Association publishes road biking information as well (<http://www.northcoastcycling.com/>).

Bayfield County has also become a hotspot for winter biking with over 100 miles of groomed winter bike trails. Trails are located at Mt. Ashwabay, Mt. Valhalla, Cable Town Trail, and the Birkie Start Area.

Golfing

Currently, Bayfield County has three nine-hole and three eighteen-hole golf courses open to the public located in Bayfield, Washburn, Iron River, and Cable.

Skiing

Winter silent sports enthusiasts, such as cross country and downhill skiers, help in stimulating the local economies during the winter months. Bayfield County has many excellent ski areas. Mt. Ashwabay Ski & Recreation Area, near Bayfield, annually attracts thousands of skiers from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Iowa for cross-country and downhill skiing.

Cross-country skiing is one of the fastest growing outdoor recreation activities in the area and this popularity has been reflected in trail development in Bayfield County. As mentioned above, the Ashwabay Outdoor Education Foundation (AOEF) manages and maintains excellent trails near Mt. Ashwabay, with trails located on County Forest, state and private lands. AOEF also maintains the Jerry Jolly Trail, which is located on County Forest and private lands. The American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation maintains a network of world-class cross-country ski trails and warming shelters on County and private land. They also host several races including the world-famous American Birkebeiner which attracts skiers from around the world. The North End Ski Club maintains an abundance of cross-country

ski trails on County Forest land near Cable. Trails that have been in place for a long time on the CNNF are the Valhalla Recreation Area (north of Washburn); Rock Lake Trail (east of Cable); Drummond Ski Trail (south of Drummond); and Namekagon Trail (near Lake Namekagon). More recently the Town of Barnes has added ski trails at Tomahawk Trail and trails have been developed at the Lincoln Community Forest in the Town of Lincoln.

Snowshoeing

Snowshoeing has gained popularity over recent years as equipment has become lighter and easier to use. Snowshoeing provides a good alternative to cross country skiing as the skill threshold required to start and enjoy the sport is considerably lower. Most snowshoers prefer to use designated trails, versus bushwhacking through the forest. Most ski trail systems do not permit snowshoeing on groomed ski trails as it can cause damage to the groomed surface. Many ski trail systems, however, also offer separate snowshoe trails. Popular snowshoe trails include: North End Trailhead in Cable, the Jerry Jolly trails near Bayfield and the Lincoln Community Forest Trail in the Town of Lincoln.

Horseback Riding

The Forest Service has one designated horse trail system that is managed only for pack saddle animals within Bayfield County. It is the Horseshoe Lake Horse Trail off of FR 245. Horses are allowed within the Rainbow Lakes Wilderness Area on both the Anderson Grade and the North Country National Scenic Trail. Horses are also allowed to use Forest Service roads. Actual trail availability is excellent throughout the County when logging roads are included.

Hunting

Bayfield County offers more than one half million acres of land open to the public for hunting. This vast area includes National Forest, State, County, industrial and private lands. Species most commonly hunted are white-tailed deer, black bear, and ruffed grouse, in addition to various migratory waterfowl and small game. County maps and plat books are available at the courthouse or to order online at www.bayfieldcounty.org.

Shooting Ranges

There are 5 shooting ranges in Bayfield County open to the public. The Town of Russell has a range in the northern part of the county. The ABC Sportman's club operates a shooting range on County Forest Land in the northwestern portion of the County. Sports Hollow is a for-profit range located just outside the city of Ashland in the Town of Eileen. The Cable Rod and Gun Club operates a shooting range near Cable, WI. The Eau Claire Lakes Conservation Club operates a rifle range in the Town of Barnes.

Motorized Trails

ATV

Motorized recreation continues to gain in popularity and there is an increasing demand for motorized recreational opportunities in the County. Bayfield County has designated approximately 145 state-funded miles for the operation of ATVs. The trail system is located on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Bayfield County Forest Lands, and some private properties. ATV trails include the Tri-County Recreational Corridor, Iron River, Moquah Spur, Valhalla, Lenawee, Buckskin, Bear Paw, Wolf, Battle Axe, Bayfield Connector, Flagg Road Connector, Horse Pasture Grade Connector, Drummond Connector and Washburn trails.

In addition to state funded trails, ATV's (and UTV's) are allowed on many Town Roads and some County Highway connectors, as well as nearly 900 miles of logging roads and skid trails located on Bayfield County Forest Land. Make sure to check with local agencies for information on which roads and trails are open for ATV (UTV) use. The Bayfield County Tourism department produces an ATV/UTV map that is available at area businesses and can be ordered online.

Snowmobile

Excellent snowmobile trails are located throughout the County and are maintained by public agencies, the Bayfield County Snowmobile Alliance and local Snowmobile Clubs. Presently, there are approximately 450 miles of state-funded trails maintained by the Bayfield County Snowmobile Alliance in the County. The approved trails are located on private, County, State, and National Forest lands.

The state funded snowmobile trails are designated, marked and groomed for use. In addition, hundreds of miles of unmarked forest roads and trails and local gas tax roads are open to snowmobiling. On the Bayfield County Forest, there is over 1,000 miles of old logging roads and skid trails open to snowmobile use (not part of the state-funded, designated snowmobile trail network). The area usually enjoys enough snow to keep trails open until mid to late March. Even in lean snow years, snowmobilers have plenty of good riding opportunities, especially in the northern half of the County, primarily a result of the Lake Superior snowbelt.

The vast trail system links the entire County together, including some of the Apostle Islands. Many of the businesses in the County's Towns and smaller communities depend heavily on snowmobilers, so winter enthusiasts will always see the "welcome mat" out. Most visiting snowmobilers stay at one of the many lodging facilities found throughout the county.

Off-Highway Motorcycles

A new Off-Highway Motorcycle program was created by the DNR IN 2016 to serve the increasing demand for OHM trails in Wisconsin. In Bayfield County there are no trails designated as OHM trails, however ATV trails on Federal land are open to off-highway motorcycles. Currently, trails on County Forest land and private land are closed to OHM use.

Scenic Byway

Wisconsin's Lake Superior Scenic Byway highlights the historical, cultural, geological and recreational assets along a 70-mile segment of State Highway 13 on the Bayfield Peninsula. The majesty of Lake Superior unfolds along the Byway with sweeping views of the "big lake" and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The Byway passes through quaint harbor towns, near orchards & fruit farms and through the homeland of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. The Byway helps draw attention to the outdoor recreation opportunities, sand beaches, museums and art galleries along with unique shops, restaurants and lodging.

Historical and Architectural Sites in Bayfield County

City of Bayfield

Most of the City of Bayfield has been designated a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places according to the State Historical Society. The Bayfield District, encompassing 46 blocks, is the 17th district in Wisconsin to be selected for the National Register.

Cornucopia

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church
Tragedy of the Siskiwit Marker

Port Wing

School Consolidation Official Marker
South Shore Community School (razed), State Highway 13

Town of Bayview

Houghton Village Depot and Paymaster's building, Bayview Park

Town of Russell

Red Cliff Indian Reservation (created 1854)

Washburn

City Hall, Washington Avenue & Pine Street
Public Library, 307 Washington Avenue
Bayfield County Courthouse, 117 East 5th Street
Washburn State Bank Building, Bayfield Street & Central Avenue
Madeline Island Official Marker, Highway 13, 5 miles north
Washburn Historic District

Ashland Vicinity

Radisson and Groeseilliers Fort Sites Official Marker, Highways 2 & 13

Archeological Sites

Four sites are listed by the Wisconsin State Historical Society. The most recent discovery was in 1969, one is from 1906 and two were first identified in 1895. It is not known if the 1906 and 1895 sites remain intact at this time. The location of each is not made public in order to protect the rights of private landowners and to eliminate excavation by “artifact hunters” or other “non-professional” archeologists not associated with the State Historical Society.

Demand Assessment and Trends

Demand for outdoor recreation is dependent on many variables, but one of the most significant is a locality's population, which includes those who reside in a jurisdiction and those who visit. In 2013, Bayfield County had a resident population of 15,042, a 0.2 percent increase from 2010. However, the county's peak population estimate for a single day in the summer of 2006 was 45,329, almost three times the resident population. This population figure includes: 15,666 residents, 7,350 lodgers filling all the hotel/motel rooms, campground sites, and recreation/educational camps, 19,968 second homeowners and 2,345 day trip visitors. Thus, one can see that in a jurisdiction like Bayfield County, which has a lot of tourists and visitors, demand for outdoor recreation increases considerably over and above the needs of the resident population.

The various characteristics of the population also can have a significant impact on the demand for outdoor recreation. These could include: age, gender, income, education, employment, marital status, and vacation time. Changing social and economic trends are also important variables that affect outdoor recreation demand. Other factors that can influence demand include: the weather, fuel costs, state of the economy, popularity of competing outdoor recreational locations, and quantity and quality of the available outdoor recreation facilities.

The State of Wisconsin published its Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in 2019 which used statewide survey data as well as national recreation trend data to assess recreation trends and needs in Wisconsin.

To help understand recreation demands and needs it's important to consider why people recreate outside. The SCORP provides the following table illustrating people's motivations for getting outside:

Reasons to get outside	% of respondents
Get exercise	64%
Be with family and friends	55%
Keep physically fit	50%
Observe scenic beauty	49%
Be close to nature	47%
Enjoy the sounds and smells of nature	47%
Get away from the usual demands	40%
Be with people who enjoy the same things I do	31%
Experience excitement and adventure	32%
Experience solitude	20%

In this plan Bayfield County is part of the Great Northwest Region, one of eight regions throughout the state. The Great Northwest Region is characterized by an abundance of natural resources that supports a large and growing tourism industry and attracts not only Wisconsin residents but residents from urban populations in neighboring states. The following trends and needs assessment is based on the entire Great Northwest Region and not just Bayfield County.

As part of the SCORP, the DNR conducted a recreational opportunities analysis (ROA) which gathered information from the public through meetings and online form submission. The ROA identified 4 factors that are important in determining people's favorite places to visit: 1) The quality of trails, 2) the desire to be in a quiet place, 3) the quality of habitat, and 4) good maps, signs or information about the property.

Another category that the ROA gathered information on was the top 10 most frequently identified recreation opportunities needed in the Great Northwest. They listed the following needs: 1) More hiking/walking/running trails, 2) More paved bicycling trails, 3) More natural surface (dirt) bicycling trails, 4) More rustic/quiet campgrounds, 5) More public shore access to lakes and streams, 6) More local parks and playgrounds, 7) More developed campgrounds, 8) More wildlife watching decks and platforms, 9) More trails for motorized recreation, and 10) More horseback trails.

Along with the ROA the DNR also sent questionnaires to county park systems and according to the results from that, the greatest need at county park properties are 1) motorized recreational trails, 2) campsites, 3) mountain biking trails, 4) hiking/walking/running trails, and 5) boat launches. The questionnaire also attempted to identify recreation trends and ranked activities as strong increase, moderate increase, slight increase, about constant, slight decrease and moderate decrease. The only activity that was shown to have a strong increase in the Northwest region was riding ATVs or UTVs. Seven activities were ranked as moderate increase: Bicycling – winter/fat tire biking, Camping – RV/pop-up, Bicycling – mountain biking, Bicycling – recreational/rail-trail biking, use of picnic areas/day use areas/beach areas, paddle boarding, and target firearm shooting at designated ranges. Only one activity showed a slight decrease, hunting big game, and no activities showed a moderate decrease. Comparatively, statewide the 4 activities that had strong increase were Bicycling – winter/fat tire biking, Camping – RV/pop-up, Bicycling – mountain biking, and riding ATVs or UTVs. The only activity to show a moderate decrease statewide was snowmobiling.

With motorized recreation we are able to track trends through vehicle registrations, although this data only shows vehicles registered in that county and doesn't account for visitors who register their vehicle in their home county and come to Bayfield County to recreate. Data is currently available for 2013-2016. In Bayfield County from 2013 to 2016 ATV registrations have increased by 8%, UTV registrations have increased by 67% and snowmobile registrations have increased by 4%. Compared to the state as whole where ATV registrations increased by 9%, UTV registrations increased by 95% and snowmobile registrations have stayed the same.

Bayfield County # of registrations

	ATVs	UTVs	Snowmobiles
2013	3886	359	2358
2014	4010	471	2429
2015	4166	596	2179
2016	4178	601	2455
4 year % change	+8%	+67%	+4%

Statewide # of registrations

	ATVs	UTVs	Snowmobiles
2013	292014	19245	182303
2014	302211	27349	184046
2015	316127	36820	167839
2016	318222	37458	182405
4 year % change	+9%	+95%	0%

Demand for most of the outdoor recreational activities identified above is expected to continue to grow. Vacationers to Bayfield County and second home use will continue to increase. As the baby boom generation begins to retire in ever greater numbers in the coming years, this will accelerate the development of seasonal and second homes in the county. Also, as the population ages, concerns about the accessibility of the county's outdoor recreational facilities to persons with mobility and other physical limitations become ever more important.

Plan Recommendations

County Facilities

ATKINS LAKE COUNTY PARK (T44N-R5W, Sec. 20)

Existing Facilities:

Located on the northeast corner of Atkins Lake on Old Grade Road, which is located 10 miles southeast of Grand View, this 3 acre park provides the only public access to this very deep lake. Atkins Lake provides good fishing with populations of northern pike, walleye, largemouth and smallmouth bass and panfish. The park serves as a picnic area, family and young adult gathering place and swimming beach. A new boat landing was constructed 2006 and dock a new was installed in 2018 The parking area was enlarged, graded and graveled. An information kiosk was installed by the boat landing, and cement pads have been poured for the picnic tables, fire rings, and hand pump. A new concrete ADA bathroom was constructed in 2007. Trees bordering the park are predominately mixed hardwoods and several conifers that were planted by The Wisconsin Conservation Corps as part of a shoreline restoration project.

Recommended Improvements:

- Construct ADA 10' x 25' shelter/pavilion.
- ADA access water pump.
- ADA access to swimming beach.

BIG ROCK COUNTY CAMPGROUND (T49N-R5W- Section 24)

Existing Facilities:

Located three miles northwest of Washburn on the Sioux River, (Class A Trout stream), this 40 acre park has camping, picnicking, wildlife viewing, fishing and a nature trail. Listed as a birding site by the Audubon Society for pileated woodpeckers and vireos, it is also home to thrushes, wrens, eagles and warblers. There are twelve single campsites and one group site with tables and fire rings. The park has newer concrete lighted pit toilets on both sides of the recreational area (ADLP grant). The park is situated in approximately 1 ½ acres of mature white and red pine, red maple, white and yellow birch, and red oak and hemlock trees. Spring steelhead runs on the Sioux River generate extremely heavy bank and stream fishing. The upgraded park has an improved parking area, picnic area, water pump with drinking fountain. The entire road system has new culverts and has been either blacktopped or graded and graveled.

Recommended Improvements:

- Construct ADA wood viewing deck overlooking the Sioux River.
- Gravel/improve all camping pads.
- Consider installing electricity at some or all camping sites.
- Repair access roads and walkways leading down to the river.
- Construct a shelter over pump/drinking fountain.
- Construct a small pavilion.

- Add back country camp sites
- Add tent pads to some existing sites
- Add natural fencing or shrubs to define current campsites
- Develop trails on both sides of the river
- Build camper cabin

DELTA LAKE COUNTY CAMPGROUND (T46N—R7W, Sec. 7)

Existing Facilities:

Located thirteen miles southeast of the Town of Iron River, Delta Lake Campground has become increasing popular. Mixed hardwoods dominate this 40-acre campground and the lake receives moderate use by wildlife. Delta Lake covers 170 acres and is an excellent fishing lake year round with populations of northern pike, bass, perch, bluegill, crappie and bullheads. The campground consists of 35 wooded campsites with picnic tables and fire rings. Picnicking is popular by the swimming beach area. The park serves as a trailhead for the CAMBA mountain bike trails. A new concessionaire was added in 2005 and a sanitary dump station the year before. Most sites have electricity and a 3-stall shower unit was constructed in 2008. The parking area for anglers has been improved and a new concrete boat ramp and wheeled aluminum 6'x20' dock was installed. A playset and an additional fishing pier were added in 2014. Another drinking water station was established. Underground power has been installed. High speed internet was added in 2015 and available throughout the campground. Additional boat mooring and fishing piers were installed in 2015 and 2016.

Recommended Improvements:

- Construct small lakefront shelter/pavilion.
- Construct additional set of concrete bathrooms by campsite #20
- Maintain ADA walkway near the beach area.
- Explore potential for rustic camping sites on the County owned island in the middle of Delta Lake.
- Gravel and grade all roads.
- Water hookups at all sites.
- Sewer hookups at most sites.
- Gravel all camp pads.
- Provide canoes and/or kayaks for rent.
- Install additional boat mooring and/or fishing piers.

JERRY J. JOLLY TRAIL (T50N-R4W, Sec. 19)

Existing Facilities:

Located on Star Route Road, 2.75 miles from the intersection with County Hwy J and Fish Hatchery Road, 73 acres of undeveloped land was donated to the County in 2005 by Jerry J. Jolly with the intention that non-motorized recreational trails be developed and maintained, so that the public would be able to enjoy the land. This donation, combined with the work of the Bayfield County Forestry and Parks Department and additional funding from the Nelson-Knowles Stewardship grant, allows the public to experience the beauty along Pike's Creek on what was once private property. Walking/hiking trails in the summer and cross-country ski trails in the winter provide year-round use of this scenic area. Present facilities include a parking area, ADA toilets, informational kiosk, donation station and picnic area.

Recommended Improvements:

- Installation of solar lighting.
- Develop 20' x 20' covered shelter.
- Install electric to shelter area.
- Install warming units along ski trail.
- Install rest stop benches.
- Construct yurt facilities for all season camping along the trails.
- Fix chronic wet spots w/ boardwalks or groundwork
- Install hand pump with drinking fountain.
- Acquire nearby property from willing sellers to protect ski trail linkages if funds are available.
- Update trail signs and markers.
- Create additional trails for increased recreational opportunities.
- Add rustic camp sites
- construct parallel snowshoe trail in areas where the ski trail is too narrow to accommodate both.

TWIN BEAR COUNTY CAMPGROUND (T47N-R8W, Sec 34, Govt #5)

Existing Facilities:

Located seven miles southeast of the Town of Iron River on Twin Bear Lake which is part of the Pike Chain of Lakes, this 40 acre park is surrounded by oak, birch, maple and a few scattered pines. Ever popular with boaters and fishing enthusiasts, the lake is home to northern pike, walleye, largemouth bass and panfish. The campground consists of 43 sites, with picnic tables and fire rings. There is daily parking for picnickers and vehicles with boat trailers. Facilities include a sanitary dump station, 20/30/50 amp electrical service at most sites (electricity was completely upgraded in 2012), concrete, three stall shower facility (with individual gas water heaters), several concrete pit toilets, swimming area, beach area, public picnic area, and concessionaire. A newly constructed ADA ramp provides access to the beach area and fishing pier. The park is home to an extremely popular boat launch, which provides access to the Pike Chain. There are also multiple boat mooring docks, as well as new fishing piers. A new playset was installed at the beach area in 2015. High speed internet was also installed throughout the campground in 2015. All power to this park is underground with power pedestals.

Recommended Improvements:

- Construct small covered shelter/pavilion by swimming area.
- Construct another 3-stall shower unit.
- Gravel camp pads.
- Replace all fire rings.
- Water hookups at sites.
- Sewer hookups at sites.
- Maintain/gravel and grade all roads.
- Install new boat mooring and/or fishing piers at various locations.
- Develop invasive species control management plan.
- Provide canoes and/or kayaks for rent.
- Maintain retaining walls at various locations throughout the campground.
- Improve and enlarge parking area near boat ramp and/or other locations on the property.
- Create more parking areas near the beach.
- Boat mooring docks near boat ramp.
- Build multiple footpaths for lake access.
- New picnic tables and/or fire rings for campsites and picnic area.
- Create new rustic tent sites on the high behind the shower building, with picnic tables and fire rings.

LOST CREEK FALLS

Existing Facilities:

A rustic, 1 ¼ mile hiking trail, with a small trail head parking area, located on Trail Drive, roughly ½ mile west of County Highway C, just south of Cornucopia. The trail meanders through thousands of acres of County Forest land before reaching a series of waterfalls on Lost Creek Number One. Several boardwalks were built to traverse wet areas and minimize foot traffic impacts.

Recommended Improvements:

- Existing trail improvements.
- Creation of additional trails i.e hiking, biking, skiing.
- Installation of new signs and trail markers.
- Add additional boardwalks as needed.
- Improve/expand parking area.
- Installation of new benches.
- Development of primitive camping sites and/or yurts.
- Map and improve social trails.
- Build boardwalk over drainage to the picnic area.

BAYFIELD COUNTY RUSTIC YURTS

There are three rustic yurts on Bayfield County Forest land; two on the Mt. Ashwabay ridge, in the Town of Bayfield, and one in Cable. All of them are located on non-motorized trail networks. They are available for rent year-round.

Existing Facilities (each yurt):

- Yurt w/ bunk beds, wood stove & table
- Privy
- Fire Ring
- Firewood shed
- Picnic Tables

Recommended Improvements (each yurt):

- Expand woodshed.
- Replace entry doors and/or add screens, as needed.
- Maintain decks and other amenities.

SISKIWIT FALLS

The Siskiwit River estuary preserve is a 100 acre recreational area just south of Cornucopia. While the majority of the property is forested, it was a former homestead and has an old apple orchard, an open field and some rough trails. The main attraction of the property is a series of waterfalls on the Siskiwit River. There is a fisherman's trail along the east side of the river that gives visitors access to the waterfalls.

Existing Facilities:

- Parking area on the West side of the river
- Parking area on the East side of the river.
- Rustic fisherman's trail with access to the Siskiwit River

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve existing fisherman's trail.
- Add kiosks to both parking areas
- Improve/build ADA trail on the west side of the river
- Create lookout platform on the west side of the river.
- Build Pedestrian bridge over the river
- Create a trail along field and through the woods for both summer use and potential winter cross-country skiing.
- Rehabilitate the apple orchard.
- Develop trail into town
- Build picnic shelter
- Build Pit toilets
- Create bird watching trail with educational signs

FIRE TOWER HILL

This 104 acre property was acquired at the end of 2019 and is located in the heart of Bayfield's "fruit loop" which draws a lot of tourists. The property has unique steep topography with primarily mature oak with some hemlock and a young birch stand.

Existing Facilities:

- ½ mile long paved road
- electrical service along paved road.

Recommended Improvements:

- Create Parking Area
- Add kiosk
- Create a loop trail
- Add gate
- Create series of educational signs along the trail
- Build camper cabin

GLACIAL KETTLES GEOLOGICAL AREA

Located in the Town of Bell east of County Highway C, this area is defined by a unique concentration of glacial knobs and kettles, many of which exhibit 150 to 200 feet of topographical relief. Most of the area is dominated by poorer quality oak (scrub oak) with a mixture of jack pine, aspen, red pine, and white pine.

Existing Facilities:

- None.

Recommended Improvements:

- Develop Trailhead
- Develop trails in and around the kettles
- Develop back country camp sites

ABC SPORTSMEN CLUB SHOOTING RANGE

Located on County Forest Land east of County Highway C in the Town of Bell. The range is managed by ABC Sportsmen Club as per a lease agreement with Bayfield County.

Existing Facilities:

- Eight shooting lanes with covered benches
- Parking Area
- Trap Range
- Vault Toilet
- Fencing
- ADA Accessible shooting lane

Recommended Improvements:

- Build trap house
- Improve existing infrastructure ie. Parking area
- Improve kiosk and signage

City Facilities

City of Bayfield

MEMORIAL PARK ANNEX (.02 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This small park is a "scenic overlook" within the city. Adjacent to Memorial Park, which is owned by the Bayfield Civic League, this area is used by thousands of residents and tourists during the summer months. It is located along the pathway that follows the lakefront from the Bayfield Pavilion to the East Dock Park and from its benches there are wonderful views of Madeline Island, the Bayfield marina and harbor. The trees, plantings, park benches and old street lights make this park unique.

Recommended Improvements:

- Rehabilitation of the City owned paved walking path to make it more level.

JAKE'S ISLAND VIEW PARK (.05 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This is a small triangle park located on the extreme east end of Manypenny Avenue. It overlooks Lake Superior and the Bayfield Marina, and is visible from both the Lake and the downtown district. The small park contains a bike rack, bench, and a variety of plants and shrubs. The pathway that goes through the park connects with the lakefront path along the harbor and also serves as part of the snowmobile trail during the winter months.

Recommended Improvements:

- More plantings (trees, shrubs, flowers).
- Drinking fountain.
- Attractive trash/recycling receptacles.
- Directional signs.
- Improved lighting.

EAST DOCK PARK (.03 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This park is located at the corner of First Street and Wilson Avenue near the Coast Guard station. It is on the shore of Lake Superior and offers a picnic area with a covered shelter, a number of tables and park benches. It has a lot of open space, with a volleyball court, a large playground area and a bike rack. Many special events are held here, and it is used by residents and tourists alike. There is always a slight breeze coming off the Lake which makes this park a popular place during the hot summer months.

In 2003, community volunteers, under the supervision and direction of Learning Structures renovated this playground into a one-of-a-kind park. The park provides play zones for different ages and host historic structures like the "Ferry" and "Sea Monster". Maintenance of these new structures and continually providing the proper absorption material beneath are priorities. Updates have been made in 2019 to some of the equipment in addition to a new fence being installed by volunteers.

High lake levels, increasingly intense storms, and extreme stormwater runoff are impacting the park. This requires evaluation of conditions and trends and the development of actions to make the park more resilient to these changing conditions. Additionally, the City's new Comprehensive Plan requires using green infrastructure where opportunities exist.

Recommended Improvements:

- Continue to provide the proper amount of absorbing material on the ground surface.
- Planting of trees & shrubs, especially shade trees near the playground area.
- Windbreaks near the existing picnic shelter.
- Implement actions to make the park more resilient to extreme storm events along the lakeshore and from stormwater runoff.

FISHING PIER

Existing Facilities:

In 1998 a public fishing pier was built adjacent to the East Dock Park. It provides handicap access from designated parking sites nearby. The fishing pier consists of a wood deck over rock filled wood cribs. Along the shoreline side of the pier is ample seating, on the lake side there is space for at least 20 anglers along the railing, with openings for disabled anglers. The pier, its walkway and the parking area are lit for security and safety by a period lamppost.

Recommended Improvements:

- Installation of a safety gate to keep toddlers from straying onto the lakefront (because of its proximity to the playground in East Dock Park).
- Annual inspection to the pier is needed to check for warped or loose planks.

FOUNTAIN PARK

Existing Facilities:

In 2019 the City completed the installation of a large fountain with interpretive information to honor the City's fountain history. The fountain was donated by Mary H. Rice and made possible with funds from Wisconsin Coastal Management. The fountain was accompanied by new modern restrooms to include three eco-friendly stalls with low flow toilets and slim dryers. This restroom is located adjacent to East Dock Park, creating an exciting new focal point for visitors along the Waterfront Walk.

Recommended Improvements:

- None at this time: maintenance is the priority for this new facility.

HISTORIC HALVOR REITEN PARK (BROAD STREET BEACH, DOCK L) (1 acre)

Existing Facilities:

This park is located at the south end of Broad Street. It consists of an open grassy area, a small structure (which serves as a storage area for lifeguard safety and rescue equipment in the summer) and a swimming beach area with a lifeguard tower, several benches and a bike rack.

The beach is located in an old boat-building and lumber-milling area of the shoreline. On-going efforts are needed clear debris and old dock cribbing from the water and beach area. In 2014 a new stormwater retention system was installed including a large rain garden and beach nourishment, grading and shaping of additional parking to the beach.

In 2006, the City of Bayfield obtained ownership of the property commonly known as "Dock L". The property was cleared of the hazardous debris that was left there, the dock was rebuilt, benches were installed and a walkway through the park was installed.

High lake levels, increasingly intense storms, and extreme stormwater runoff are impacting the park. This requires evaluation of conditions and trends and the development of actions to make the park more resilient to these changing conditions. Additionally, the City's new Comprehensive Plan requires using green infrastructure where opportunities exist.

Recommended Improvements:

- Signs designating the area for swimming only.
- Dock safety signs.
- Floats prohibiting motorized watercraft from the area.
- Re-design rain garden and other plantings for easy maintenance.
- The City is also considering whether to build another restroom facility in the area of Broad Street beach and the boat launch.
- Construction of pedestrian access via a boardwalk to the viewing dock.
- Interpretive signage to improve park's connection to City's waterfront trail and the Brownstone Trail.
- Purchase of adjacent shoreline property in an effort to increase the beach area and provide more public access to Lake Superior.
- Implement actions to make the park more resilient to extreme storm events along the lakeshore and from stormwater runoff.
- Re-construct access across the "Dock L" land spit out to the viewing platform at the end, using techniques to be resilient to high lake levels and extreme storm events.

RESTROOMS – FRONT STREET AND HARBOR (.15 acres)

Existing Facilities:

The City of Bayfield has two public restrooms downtown. One is located at Front Street and Washington Avenue near the ferry dock and the other is at First Street and Wilson Avenue near the harbor (known as Fountain Park). Both facilities are heavily used because Bayfield is a tourist community. The restrooms are ADA compliant, with larger stalls at Front Street and low-flow toilets in most stalls.

The restrooms at First and Washington were moved closer to East Dock Park in 2018. They were added with more stalls and an eco-friendly design which gives a more aesthetically pleasing visual to the area around the park. These restrooms are denoted more under the Fountain Park.

Recommended Improvements:

- Increase number of stalls and urinals.
- Replace old fixtures.
- Improve outside lighting and aesthetic appearance.
- Plant trees and shrubs.
- Incorporate "green" standards to both facilities (water conservation, reduce electrical needs, reduce paper consumption, etc.).

KORSEBERG PARK (.01 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This is a very small but prominent area on the north side of Highway 13 (at the sharp bend in the road) as you enter the city from the south. It overlooks Lake Superior with spectacular views of Madeline Island and Long Island. The park is owned by Bayfield County but maintained by the City of Bayfield.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional benches.
- Minor planting of shrubs.
- Improved lighting.
- Attractive trash receptacles.
- Informational sign.
- The City may consider formally acquiring this land from Bayfield County.

COOPER HILL PARK (.01 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This is a small neighborhood park located at the corner of South Seventh Street and Manypenny Avenue. In 2008 the park was re-built, once again following the design and oversight of Learning Structures. It incorporates unique designs which portray the City's Train History. It provides a playground area for tots and for older children, and also a small stage for neighborhood plays.

Recommended Improvements:

- Continually provide the proper amounts of absorbing material on the ground surface.
- Add benches.
- Picnic area.
- Attractive trash/recycling receptacles.
- Plantings to improve the overall aesthetic appearance of the park.

THE GIL LARSEN NATURE TRAIL (.25 miles)

Existing Facilities:

The community, tourists and the school all make good use of the large ravine that opens onto Washington Avenue at the upper end of Broad Street. Years ago this unique ecosystem was developed into a nature trail and outdoor laboratory for the school and its use continues to increase. The boardwalks, benches, scenic overlooks and rest areas were constructed in 1984 by the WCC. The entrance to the Nature Trail is open and accommodating to most but would be exclusive to the elderly and disabled. At present, the trail ends behind the school.

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve trailhead with new steps, pathway, and pollinator garden.
- Addition of informational and directional signs.
- Repair and maintenance of existing amenities (walkways, benches, overlooks, etc.).
- Extension of trail as far as possible up the ravine (this way both residents and visitors can

enjoy the biological diversity our City offers in this unique location).

BIG RAVINE PARK (120 acres)

Existing Facilities:

In 1942, a summer rainstorm caused two of Bayfield's larger ravines to flood the downtown area, causing extensive property damage. The City of Bayfield subsequently purchased 120 acres, which includes much of the Big Ravine in order to protect its watershed. The soils in this area are extremely fragile, and a 1997 report by the local USDA soil conservationist recommended that the land be utilized for recreation and forestry so that it can continue to provide flood control for the city below. (This report also recommended that the city acquire the two 40-acre parcels north of the park to extend protection of the ravine from development upstream.)

This 120-acre area has been used for recreation purposes for many years and the results of the Bayfield Community Survey, conducted in 2001, indicate that people strongly support this continued use of the land. Along the west edge of the ravine, a system of trails has been established for hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, and a soccer field (see below) was established in 1999. Along the east edge of the ravine there is a snowmobile trail which connects Bayfield with a larger, county-wide trail system, and there are also areas for hiking in the upland woods. In the bottom of the ravine there is a footpath along the intermittent stream which can be reached from the Nature Trail that begins at Washington Avenue in Bayfield.

In 2018, the City of Bayfield signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Landmark Conservancy to help maintain and enhance the trails as much as possible.

Recommended Improvements:

- Trail development including railings along steep edges, steps where necessary to prevent erosion, benches at scenic overlooks, maps & signage.
- Develop trails to link those on the east and west sides with the Nature Trail.
- Develop connection between Bayfield School and the Nature Trail.
- Outdoor classroom and environmental education facilities.
- Expansion of athletic facilities.
- Parking area on Meyer-Olson Road.
- Pursue easements/acquisitions for access from the north end of Broad St. to the east side trail.

SOCCER FIELD

Existing Facilities:

In 1999, a group of citizens organized to build a youth soccer field on top of the old landfill site in the northwest corner of the city. This area is located at the end of the Old Dump Road and is within the 120 acres of Big Ravine Park. Utilizing grants from Wisconsin DNR and a local bank, an area was leveled and planted in grass. The field has been utilized for soccer and other activities since the spring of 2000; however, the school district has not used the field for soccer since 2017. Currently there is one large

playing field and one small practice field. Most of the improvements and maintenance are carried out by the Bayfield school under an agreement with the City.

Recommended Improvements:

- Add more soil to complete construction of a full-side level field.
- Storage shed for equipment.
- Construct concession stand.
- Add benches for spectators
- Improve field conditions (level, grass, watering).
- Add running track around perimeter of soccer field.
- Develop additional practice fields.
- Widen and improve Hilltop Road (access road)
- Designate parking area for events on the athletic fields (parking area could also provide remote visitor parking for downtown events).

HILLSIDE PARK

Existing Facilities:

This park is located northwest of the Bayfield School and includes three separate areas: a ballpark, parking lot and playground – all at different levels on the hillside.

The ballpark occupies the top of the hill and is probably one of the most scenic in all of northern Wisconsin. While attending a game, one can view Lake Superior, Madeline Island, Long Island, Chequamegon Bay and Bayfield itself. It is used by both the community and school. Facilities include bleachers and dugouts, new steps to the parking area and a handicap accessible walkway along the first base side. The entire field is surrounded by a four foot high chain link fence.

A restroom building is located down the hill from the bleachers. This facility was built by the school and is maintained by the school (except for turning the water service on in the spring and off in the fall, which is done by the City). This facility needs to be thoroughly evaluated, updated and certainly better maintained.

Recommended Improvements:

- Repairs to the infield.
- Restroom upgrade and maintenance.
- Scoreboard which can be stored between games.
- Painting/decoration of dugouts.
- Bull pen.
- Lights.

The parking lot is located just below the ballpark. This facility is used by both the community and the school. It is large enough to park about 25 cars and has two basketball hoops, one at each end of the lot. In the future, the school will be making more use of the parking lot during the academic year.

Each parking lot is also an educational area which the school utilizes as a community garden and, recently, installed a High Tunnel greenhouse.

Most of the improvements and maintenance are carried out by the Bayfield school under an agreement with the City.

SOUTH PLAYGROUND (.02 acres)

Existing Facilities:

This playground area is owned and maintained by the Bayfield School District and is located just below the Bayfield School. It provides several large pieces of play equipment and is utilized mostly by the elementary school children.

DALRYMPLE CAMPGROUND (14.54 acres)

Existing Facilities:

The campground is located ¼ mile north of the City of Bayfield. This campground is within a stone's throw of Lake Superior. It is a heavily wooded area with very deep ravines and a wonderful view of the Apostle Islands. The park has a rustic appearance and caters to tenting and small camper users, rather than to people using very large RVs. There are 30 campsites, with electricity to 70% of the sites. Because of the rough terrain of the area, improvements are progressing very slowly and are often expensive.

In the spring of 2009, both restrooms (pit toilets) were replaced with new vault systems including new concrete structures which have stalls and are ADA compliant.

High lake levels, increasingly intense storms, and extreme stormwater runoff are impacting the park. This requires evaluation of conditions and trends and the development of actions to make the park more resilient to these changing conditions. Additionally, the City's new Comprehensive Plan requires using green infrastructure where opportunities exist.

Electrical upgrades have been made in 2018/2019. The City of Bayfield is looking at adding more sites and upgrading the Waterfront Walk Trail System to reach the campground and beyond.

Recommended Improvements:

- Addition of more sites.
- Add changing rooms, drinking fountains and a storage area for supplies.
- Picnic shelter with windbreaks, more grills and tables.
- Additional fire rings, benches and trash receptacles.
- Improvement of existing sites (clear brush and dead trees, level ground).
- Walking trail to Bayfield with bridges, lake access opportunities.
- Information signs and displays.
- Improve lighting.
- Improve existing roads & add new roads as needed.
- Shoreline stabilization.

WALKING CORRIDOR

Existing Facilities:

Bayfield is a very interesting city. Although it is small, consisting of only one square mile, it has a quaint fishing village atmosphere with pleasant parks, pathways along Lake Superior, and many historical buildings. Its hillsides offer spectacular views of the Lake and the Apostle Islands.

In 2015 a waterfront walking corridor was developed linking many special "points of interest" in our historic community, the corridor starts at the head of the Brownstone Trail at 3rd St and Wilson Ave heading east along the shore then north to Front St and Washington Ave. Along this corridor will be interpretive signage depicting the history of Bayfield. The walking corridor connects to the new Fountain Park as a "turning point" to continue on to the rest of the trail.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional rest/seating areas.
- Improved walking surfaces and trail connectors.
- Connecting to other trails.
- 2nd Street waterfront and Front Street marina look-out areas.

SKATEBOARD PARK

Existing Facilities:

The Bayfield School District created a skateboard park next to the Bayfield Area Recreation Center at 136 South Broad Street. This area provides a safe area for skateboarding activities.

Recommended Improvements:

- None at this time.

BICYCLE TRAIL

Having a trail where people can bicycle in and around the city with strategically placed bike racks.

SECOND DISTRICT PARK

One of the goals of the Bayfield Parks and Recreation Department is to have a suitable park/playground in every city district. This proposed park/playground would be located north of Washington Avenue between 5th Street and 10th Street where the city expects more development in the coming years. This area consists of heavily wooded sites high on a hillside (overlooking beautiful Lake Superior). There is, at present, no park or playground in this district.

Some development in this part of the city began in 1996. Several homes were built, 10th Street was extended north to Sweeny Avenue, and a sewer main installed. The city's Comprehensive Plan may designate the land north of the municipal wellhead as

a conservancy area because it includes a steep ravine which was identified in the 1997 soil report as an area of fragile soils which should be kept in its natural state for reasons of flood control.

CATHOLIC HILL PARK

There are no public parks or playgrounds located in this part of the city which is bounded by Broad Street and Wing Avenue (Highway 13) between Washington Avenue and North Limits Road. Some discussion about developing one has begun. The goal would be to provide a safe setting with combined park and playground, so that small children living here would not have to travel such long distances to reach other city facilities. Because of the lack of city owned property here, the first step would be to locate and purchase a suitable area to develop. Such neighborhood parks (such as our Cooper Hill Park), need not be very large, but still are used often and enjoyed by people living near them.

BAYFIELD AREA TRAILS SYSTEM:

Recommended Improvements:

- Implement a wayfinding system to facilitate public information and access to parks, trails (trailheads), and the lake.
- Work cooperatively with the Bayfield Area Trails System (BATS) Committee to develop and implement a unified trails system among the City, Town, County, and Red Cliff. This would include identifying and developing linkages between existing trails networks providing public information and access, and developing capacity to maintain trails. Place an emphasis on trails along the waterfront, notably a trail from the City to Dalrymple Park.
- Establish conservation easements on City Lands in the Big Ravine and other lands zoned as Conservancy (W-1) lands.

BROWNSTONE TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

Established in 1996 by Landmark Conservancy in partnership with private landowners, this approximate 2.5 mile trail connects the City of Bayfield's historic downtown at the corner of Wilson Avenue and S. 3rd Street to Pikes Bay Marina and Port Superior located in the Town of Bayfield. The trail is a highly used, public trail that travels alongside Lake Superior on an old railroad grade. Uses are non-motorized in nature and include walking, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. The trail passes over brownstone cliffs and through a forested area of the shoreline that is home to native trees and shrubs as well as wildlife including migratory birds. Like other lakeshore areas, various section of the Brownstone Trail and its lakeside slopes have been impacted by natural and man-made causes through the years. Therefore, at times, sections of the Brownstone Trail may be closed or re-routed.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional rest/seating areas
- Improved walking surfaces where needed
- Slope erosion and stabilization activities
- Invasive plant control and removal

- Connection to the Salmo Trail in the future
- Native plantings

City of Washburn

THOMPSON WEST END PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Campground
- Campsite Cable Hook-ups/Electrical sites and WIFI.
- Shower & restroom facilities in ADA compliance.
- Information kiosk and payment pipe
- Sewage dump station.
- Two Flowing wells.
- Festival area.
- Covered picnic shelter.
- Picnic area.
- Swimming beach.
- Playground area.
- One 75' fishing pier.
- Boat launch & docks.
- Storm water conveyance pond.

Recommended Improvements:

- Extending water & sewer utilities to campsites.
- Replacement of playground equipment.
- Additional covered picnic shelter.
- Extension of Lakefront Trail through park.
- Construction of year around ADA compliant restrooms within festival area.
- Purchase of an automated Beach Rake.
- Extending water utilities to festival area.
- Replace fishing pier, to include ADA compliance.
- Construct roof structure over flowing wells and upgrade piping.
- Construct equipment storage building.
- Extending adequate power facilities to festival area.
- Paving of parking lot with permeable materials.
- Expansion of playground area.
- Construction of gazebo by waterfront.
- Drive, for surface water management and park expansion.
- Pathways and access trails in park that comply with ADA.
- Expansion of Maritime Trails signage within park.
- Erosion control along lakefront.
- Construct campfire program area with seating.
- Storm water management improvements.
- Reduce lake level of Lake Superior.
- Development of additional campsites.
- Development of additional camping areas.
- Landscaping of current and any additional camping areas.
- Expand restroom/shower facilities within campground, with ADA compliance.
- Extension of municipal utilities to additional campsites and restrooms.
- Development of additional picnic and recreation facilities e.g. playground equipment, disc golf course and public pavilions.
- Construction of appropriate parking facilities for park facilities, including boat ramp and beach.

WEST END PARK BOAT LANDING

Existing Facilities:

- Lakefront & Maritime Trails Trail head
- Fitness Area and Equipment
- Boat Docks
- Boat Launch

- Overflow Camping Area
- Paved & Grass Parking Area
- Sailing, Kayak, Rowing Shell Instruction Beach

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending water & sewer utilities to public facilities at boat launch • Construction of ADA compliant restrooms • Storm water management improvements. • Construction of community center • Construction of access roads and parking by community center • Removal of pilings to permit better water access to landing • Construction of larger boat and trailer parking lot by boat ramp | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of Lakefront Trail through park • Addition of picnic tables and benches • Expansion of Maritime Trails signage within park • Relocate instructional facilities, and indoor storage for sailing, kayaking and rowing programs • Landscaping and tree planting • Purchase of buoys to mark channel to boat landing • Dredging of the boat ramp area |
|---|---|

PUBLIC LANDS - THOMPSON WEST END PARK TO SOUTH CITY LIMITS

Existing Facilities:

- ATV & Snowmobile Trail

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of Lakefront Trail and Maritime Trail from Thompson's West End Park westward along lakefront to the south city limits (Summit Avenue). • Construction of parking lot at trail head by Summit Avenue (south city limits). • Design and construction of cross-country ski trails. • Transition old railroad grade to multipurpose trail to include walking, biking, skiing. • Construction of pedestrian bridge across Thompson Creek. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grading and surfacing of ATV/snowmobile trail along old railroad grade. • Completion of ATV/snowmobile bridge across Thompson Creek. • Installation of signage along trails. • Installation of benches and picnic tables. • Construction of fishing pier south of Thompson Creek. • Purchase additional lands. • Construction of trail shelters. • Construction of boardwalks over marshy areas of pedestrian trail. |
|--|---|

FORMER RAILROAD GRADE WITHIN CITY

Existing Facilities:

- ATV & Snowmobile Trail

Recommended Improvements:

- Purchase remaining railroad right-of-way in private hands between 4th Avenue East and Gary Road.
- Construction of ATV/Snowmobile trail and/or silent sports trail between 4th Avenue East and Gary Road.

- Transition old railroad grade to multipurpose trail to include walking, biking, skiing.
- Install signage as required.
- Landscaping as necessary.
- Grade and resurface trail throughout the city.
- Relocate overhead power lines.

LAKEFRONT PARKWAY

Existing Facilities:

- Gravel trail from 6th Avenue West to 1st Avenue East
- Maritimes Trail & Historical signage
- Picnic tables and benches
- Parking & trail head at 4th Avenue West
- Bridges over ravines

- Landscaping with native species
- 6th Avenue West to Washington Avenue is ADA accessible
- Unguarded beaches
- Parking & trail head at Washington Avenue

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve trail heads and parking lots.
- Pave entire trail for ADA accessibility.
- Install additional benches and picnic tables.
- Relocation of trail within Washburn Marina.
- Expansion of trail from 1st Avenue East to Memorial Park.
- Update of management plan.
- Renovation of trail between Washington Avenue and Marina with switchbacks and bridges across ravines to insure ADA accessibility.

- Install decorative and safety lighting as necessary.
- Expansion of picnic or pet exercising areas.
- Expansion of Maritime Trails, historical and informational signage within parkway.
- Expansion of Trail from 6th Avenue West to Summit Avenue.
- Replace existing and install new bridges across ravines as necessary.
- Remove invasive plant species, plant native species.

WASHBURN MARINA

Existing Facilities:

- 138 Boat slips
- Piers & Docks with utility hook-up
- Outdoor boat storage
- Boat lift
- Covered picnic shelter
- Store

- Petroleum sales
- Boat launch
- Fish cleaning station
- Paved and unpaved parking areas
- Restrooms & shower facilities
- Office building and repair building
- Lounge

Recommended Improvements:

- Addition of campsites.
- Replace pier decking on piers.
- Landscape to eliminate industrial look
- Replacement of existing office building with enlarged office, store and lounge.
- Construction of laundry facilities.
- Construction of playground area.
- Build enhancements to lakefront trail.
- Extension of south break wall to better protect interior basin opening.
- Installation of safety equipment on break wall and piers.
- Construction of picnic area.
- Construction of additional marina basin for 50-100 additional slips.
- Relocation of lakefront trail.
- Repair and expansion of parking areas.

COMMERCIAL DOCK & BEACH

Existing Facilities:

- Mooring bollard for commercial boats
- Fishing area
- Beach

Recommended Improvements at Beach:

- Upgrade parking at beach area
- Install benches or picnic tables
- Construct ADA bathroom
- Construction of premier (yurt style) campsite
- Purchase beach grooming equipment

ATHLETIC FIELDS & SKATE RINKS

Existing Facilities:

- Regulation softball field
- Regulation baseball field
- Regulation little league field
- 2 ice rinks
- Restrooms, concession stand, warming building
- Parking and access road
- Snowmobile trail

Recommended Improvements:

- Reconstruction of skate park ramps.
- Re-contouring of skating rink walls to permit better maintenance of landscaping.
- Paving of parking lot.
- Additional tree planting and landscaping.
- Electronic scoreboards at all fields.
- Installation of lighting at fields.
- Pave access road to concession stand.
- Reconstruct little league dugout.
- Complete fencing of little league field.
- Installation of bleachers at all fields.
- Construction and paving of pedestrian walkways throughout park that are ADA compliant.
- Extend water lines to softball field and little league field.
- Install better directional signage to park.

- Construct press box and announcer's stand at all fields.
- Extend lakefront parkway walking trail through park.
- Install additional benches and picnic tables at park.
- Construct new access road to park via 2nd Avenue East.
- Relocate and reconstruct skate park.
- Better sealing of east skating rink basin to permit it to hold water better.
- Improvement in storm water handling.
- Construct covered picnic pavilion at little league field.
- Prepare park development plan for Athletic Fields Park.
- Place fencing around baseball field and skate park at other locations.
- Construct equipment storage buildings.
- Install additional paved walkways.
- Construct field sports area including paved athletic track, bleachers, lighting and fencing.
- Construct dugouts at boy's baseball field and repair other dugouts.
- Purchase additional lands.

MEMORIAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Campground
- Covered picnic shelter
- Dump station
- Electric and cable TV service to some sites and WIFI.
- Playground
- Historic kitchen building
- Picnic areas
- Pathways and bridges across ravines
- Restrooms and shower building
- Information kiosk and payment pipe
- Parking area
- Park gate (South 6th Avenue East)

Recommended Improvements:

- Preparation of campground development plan.
- Renovation and redesign of campsites to facilitate access and identification.
- Install additional benches and picnic table.
- Expansion of lakefront trail through park.
- Construction of primitive campsites.
- Construction of premier (yurt style) campsites
- Extension of water lines within park.
- Construction of additional ADA compliant trails and pathways within park.
- Construction of concession stand.
- Construction of additional pedestrian bridges across ravines.
- Pave access roads.
- Construct new or renovate restroom/shower building to ADA compliance.
- Construction of fishing pier.
- Renovation & expansion of playground area.
- Replace playground equipment.
- Expansion of maritime trails, historical and informational signage within park.
- Re-establishment of fitness trail within park.
- Reconstruction of caretaker's house.
- Upgrading and expansion of electric service to campsites.
- Extension of sanitary sewer lines within park.
- Purchase of additional lands.
- Construction of additional picnic pavilion.
- Construction of beach access steps.
- Construct bandstand.
- Install sand lot volleyball courts.
- Construct campfire program area with seating.
- Storm water management best management practices.

INTER-COMMUNITY TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare recreational trail plan over abandoned railroad corridor between Washburn and Ashland for mixed use activities.
- Prepare recreational trail plan over abandoned railroad or existing highway corridors between Washburn and Bayfield for silent sports.
- Legal work to purchase lands and acquire easements as necessary.
- Surface trail with gravel or asphalt as warranted.
- Provide trail heads and parking as needed.
- Prepare maps and trail brochures.
- Undertake clearing and grade trail as necessary.
- Install bridges as necessary.
- Install signage as necessary.

DUPONT LINEAR PARK

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare park development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Prepare & publish maps and brochures of park.
- Purchase additional lands and easements as necessary to provide access to park, extend park and establish trail heads.
- Provide signage as necessary.
- Install gates at access points to limit motorized vehicles.

WASHBURN GREEN CIRCLE TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare trail development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Purchase of trail maintenance equipment including ATV, trailers and accessories.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Purchase additional lands and easements as necessary to provide access to park, extend park and establish trail heads.
- Provide signage as necessary.
- Prepare & publish maps and brochures of park.

- Install gates as necessary to prevent access of motorized vehicles.

- Purchase of snowmobile and cross-country skiing trail grooming equipment.
- Bridge ravines and streams as necessary.

JACKIE'S FIELD

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground set • Benches • Sandlot ball field | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic tables • Gravel parking lot |
|---|---|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct covered picnic shelter. • ADA compliant pathways throughout park. • New backstop and fencing at ball field. • Construction of soccer field. • Extend utility lines to park. • Informational signage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install benches and picnic tables. • Construction of restrooms. • Pave parking lot • Landscaping and tree planting. • Improved storm water handling. |
|---|--|

EAST SIDE TENNIS COURTS

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts • Benches • Fencing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ½ court basketball court • Tennis backboard |
|---|--|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurface tennis courts. • Install drinking fountain. • Expand basketball court to full court. • Fence basketball court. • Provide ADA compliant paved pathways. • Install benches and picnic tables. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paint mural on tennis backboard. • Construct maintenance building. • Renovate tennis court lighting. • Landscaping & tree planting. • Improve signage. • Purchase additional lands. |
|--|--|

SMALL TRIANGLE

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flower gardens | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches |
|--|---|

Recommended Improvements:

- Renovate flower gardens.
- Install benches.
- Landscaping and tree planting.

- Construct sculpture.
- Construct walkways and plaza.
- Install drinking fountain.

LEGION PARK

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran's Memorial • Flag poles • Flower gardens | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways • Benches |
|--|---|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare park development plan. • Extend utilities to park. • Replace pathways with ADA compliant walkways. • Install drinking water fountain. • Renovate and expand flower gardens. • Install benches. • Renovate veteran's memorial. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade electrical service to park. • Construct fountain. • Construct fountain plaza. • Construct sculpture. • Landscaping and tree planting. • Install picnic tables. • Install park lighting. |
|---|---|

CITY HALL PLAZA

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fountain • Lighting • Walkways • Flag poles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plaza • Flower gardens • Benches |
|--|--|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of fountain electrical controls • Replacement of plaza lights • Replacement of plaza walkways | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Landscaping • Renovation of flower gardens |
|--|--|

WIKDAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Lighting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic tables • Flower gardens |
|---|---|

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare park development plan.
- Renovate flower gardens.
- Renovate outdoor lighting and upgrade electrical capability for festivals.
- Construct gazebo or band stage.
- Construct restrooms.
- Construct ADA compliant pathways and walkways.
- Install drinking fountain
- Place benches and picnic tables.

HILLSIDE PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Playground
- ½ court basketball court
- Benches & picnic tables
- Tennis courts
- Sand lot ball diamond
- Tennis backstop

Recommended Improvements:

- Resurface tennis courts.
- Renovate and expand playground.
- Extend utilities to site.
- Construct covered picnic shelter.
- Landscaping and tree planting.
- Construct full basketball court.
- Install signage as necessary.
- Construct ADA complaint pathways.
- Renovate tennis court lighting.
- Fence sand lot ball diamond.
- Construct ADA compliant restrooms.
- Install benches and picnic tables.
- Construct parking lot.

THOMPSON CREEK PARKWAY

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Purchase lands along Thompson Creek for park.
- Prepare park development plan.
- Construct access roads to park site.
- Extend utilities to access points.
- Construct hiking and cross-country ski trails.
- Landscaping & tree planting.
- Erosion control along stream banks.
- Construct picnic pavilion.
- Construct trail shelters.
- Construct parking lots at access points.
- Construct ADA compliant restrooms.
- Construct bridges across Thompson Creek as necessary.
- Install additional signage.
- Construct boardwalks across wetlands.

Township Facilities

Town of Barksdale

Existing Facilities:

- Skating rink

Recommended Improvements:

- Warming shed
- Equipment to flood rink

Town of Barnes

TOMAHAWK LAKE PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Public Boat Launch w/pier
- Public Beach
- Toilets - improved access
- Benches - added new
- Swimming Pier
- Sledding Hill
- Hiking, biking, and Cross-Country Ski Trail; expanded 2018-2019
- Picnic Pavilion
- Swings
- Interpretive and directional signs along trails including trail maps
- An accessible year-round shelter
- Security System
- Expanded accessible parking
- Accessible fishing pier
- Created drainage areas to capture runoff
- Additional parking lot was established on Barnes Road to access trails
- Additional picnic tables and benches
- Tetherball
- Road improvement and resurfacing
- Rain gardens and landscaping to encourage native gardening

Recommended Improvements:

- Design and implement lakeshore landscapes as visual education tools
- Public WIFI
- Add storage garage
- Accessible boat launch pier
- Replace swimming pier
- Create fire pit area
- Add playground equipment, like volleyball
- Accessible picnic table
- Accessible public toilets
- Sledding hill relocation

TOWN OF BARNES RECREATION AREA

Existing Facilities:

- Tennis/Pickleball Courts repainted lines in 2017, new wind nets for tennis courts
- Basketball Court resurfaced in 2017
- Ball Field
- Bleachers
- Ice Skating/Roller Skating Rink upgraded in 2019
- Skate Rink Warming House
- Playground - added equipment, benches & picnic tables
- Parking lot
- Pavilion
- Barbecue Pit
- Toilets
- Nip n Tuck Walking Trail
- Additional benches and picnic tables
- Fitness Equipment: added Balance Beam and Leg Lift in 2019
- 76 Acres was purchased adjacent to the park.

Town of Bayfield

BELANGER SETTLEMENT PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Picnic area with shelter

Recommended Improvements:

- Replace toilets
- Develop CAMBA mountain bike trails at and adjacent to Mt. Ashwabay
- Re-roof shelter

SALMO LAKEWALK TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- Interpretive trail and boardwalk providing access to a Lake Superior beach.

Recommended improvements:

- Restrooms/privy
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Picnic area/pavilion
- Additional historical and interpretive signs

CAMBA TRAILHEAD -SKI HILL ROAD

Existing Facilities:

- Access to Mt. Ashwabay Cluster of Mountain Bike Trails.

Recommended Improvements:

- CAMBA Ski Hill Road Trailhead: gravel and grade parking lot; install trailhead gateway structure; install restroom/changing facility

- Create easy, entry-level trail as part of the CAMBA bike trail system at Mt. Ashwabay
- Develop downhill/gravity trails to complement CAMBA bike trail system

Mt. ASHWABAY SKI AND RECREATION AREA

Existing Facilities:

Located 3 miles north of the City of Bayfield, Mt. Ashwabay provides year-round recreation opportunities for residents of the Chequamegon Bay area as well as visitors. The area encompasses more than 2500 acres; composed of lands owned by Bayfield County, the State of Wisconsin, Mt. Ashwabay, Big Top Chautauqua, and a few private landowners. Recreation facilities and activities include alpine and nordic skiing, hiking, mountain biking, winter fat-tire biking, and camping in yurts. Since the 1940's, Mt. Ashwabay has been a cherished community resource that provides family-oriented outdoor recreation for all to enjoy. Much of the operations and maintenance are provided by community volunteers and non-profit organizations including the Ashwabay Outdoor Education Foundation (AOEF), Bayfield Nordic Inc. (BNI), and Chequamegon Area Mountain Biking Association (CAMBA).

Alpine Skiing:

- A chalet that provides a gathering place, snack bar, restrooms, and office space.
- A second building that houses equipment rental, restrooms, and bar.
- Maintenance area, including outbuildings/shop for equipment storage and maintenance
- 11 ski runs of varying degrees of difficulty, serviced by a chairlift and rope tow
- At the top of the hill is a ski race starting structure
- Parking area serving all uses throughout the year

Nordic Skiing:

- The Nordic trail system covers over 40 kilometers of classic and skate trails of varying difficulty.
- The primary access point for the Nordic trail system is the parking area at the Mt. Ashwabay ski hill.
- The trail system is supported by maps and signage posted at key locations.
- Although not currently open to the public, the historic Nourse Sugarbush cabin is a popular destination in the trail system.
- The trail system connects to the Jerry Jolly trail system that can be accessed from Star Route in the Town of Bayfield.

Snowshoeing:

- There are snowshoe trails accessible from the main parking area, at the biking parking access on Ski Hill Road, from Whiting Road (to access the yurts), and Jerry Jolly Trails at Star Route.

Mountain and Fat Biking:

- There are 19 unique miles of mountain biking singletrack trails traversing a range of terrain and levels of difficulty constructed and maintained by the Chequamegon Area Mountain Biking Association.
- During the winter 5 miles of trail are maintained for fat tire biking groomed with the support of Ashwabay Outdoor Education Foundation and Bayfield Nordic
- There are 2 mountain bike trailheads: 1) on Ski Hill Rd. north of the Mt. Ashwabay parking area; 2) on Whiting Rd. on the south side of Mt. Ashwabay.
- Fat bike trailhead is out of the Mt. Ashwabay base area.

Hiking:

- The network of biking and skiing trails also provide hiking opportunities.

Yurts:

- There are 2 rental yurts on top of Mt. Ashwabay that are owned and operated by Bayfield County. They are available for rent throughout the year, and can be accessed from Whiting Rd. on the south side of the mountain.

Recommended Improvements:

All Uses:

- Use trail digital apps. to develop and deliver online trail maps.
- Install radio repeater on top of the mountain to support radio communication from all locations. This will facilitate operations, grooming, but most importantly safety and emergency response.
- Lodging opportunities in summer and winter. Cabins and yurts.
- Camping opportunities in summer. Tent and RV
- Shower facilities in summer can be sauna facility in winter.

Alpine Skiing:

- In the near-term, re-furbish the ski chalet, including upgrade of restrooms.
- Long-term, replace the ski chalet while preserving key historic features as appropriate.
- Update ski hills to accommodate more diverse skiers and facilitate maintenance and grooming.

Nordic Skiing:

- Warming shelter and trail check-in at trailhead.
- Expanded and improved trails to provide for classic and skate skiers of all skill levels and across a variety of terrain.
- Work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to develop the historic Nourse Sugarbush Cabin for public use as a trail destination and possible warming hut. Consider including addition of a pit toilet.
- Improve the Jerry Jolly trails from Star Route and along Pike's Creek to make grooming easier and more efficient.
- Develop nordic trail connections with Valhalla ski area.
- Installation of bridges and/or culverts across drainages and wet areas.

Snowshoeing:

- To address current conflict between snowshoeing and skiing, update Jolly plans to construct snowshoe trail along south bank. Currently the X-ski trail is too narrow for multi-use and because of drainage issues it's probably best to make a separate snowshoe trail paralleling the X-ski trail.
- Expand snowshoe trail opportunities near the Mt. Ashwabay trailhead. This could include a snowshoe trail to Pike's Creek.

Mountain and Fat Biking:

- Add up to 5 miles of additional purpose built singletrack trail to improve trail navigation and access the Mt. Ashwabay ridge and vistas for a variety of abilities.
- Expand fat biking opportunities using shared trail, decommissioned Nordic and logging trails and areas of singletrack to expand the current network along the Mt. Ashwabay ridge incorporating connections to

the yurt access trails providing yurt guests access to the groomed fat bike trail for both biking and snowshoeing.

- Continue with spot singletrack maintenance and remediation on an ongoing, as needed basis to maintain the highest quality single track mountain biking experience.
- Improve on trailhead experiences and services at both Ski Hill Rd. and Whiting Rd. mountain bike trailheads.
- Ongoing trail signage and mapping updating.
- Expand trail network to provide a range of experiences while remaining compatible with skiing and hiking activities.
- Develop biking trail connection with Valhalla.

Hiking (and snowshoe and xc ski):

- Develop a trail connection from the State fish hatchery on Pike's Creek at Highway 13 to the Mt. Ashwabai trail network, most likely at the Jerry Jolly trails.

Town of Bayview

BAYVIEW PARK

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| • Public beach access to Chequamegon Bay | • Privy |
| • Picnic tables | • Pavilion |
| • Fire rings | • Historic Buildings |

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Trail on railroad grade to Friendly Valley | • Purchase railroad grade between Friendly Valley Beach and Bayview Park |
|--|--|

HOUGHTON FALLS NATURAL AREA

Existing Facilities

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Scenic sandstone glen, falls and Lake Superior sandstone shoreline. | • Walking trail with interpretive signs. |
| | • Parking lot. |

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| • Interpretive Signage. | • Privy at trailhead parking lot |
| • Habitat rehabilitation activities, as needed. | |

FRIENDLY VALLEY BEACH ACCESS

Existing Facilities:

- Public beach access to Chequamegon Bay

Recommended Improvements:

- Privy
- Purchase railroad grade between Friendly Valley Beach and Bayview Park

WHITING ROAD CAMBA TRAILHEAD

Existing Facilities:

- Public access to Mt. Ashwabay Mountain Bike Trail System

Recommended Improvements:

- expand parking lot
- install restroom/changing facility
- install trailhead gateway structure

WHITING ROAD COUNTY FOREST YURT TRAILHEAD

Existing Facilities:

- Public access to County Forest Yurts

ONION RIVER ACCESS

Existing Facilities:

- None.

LITTLE SIOUX RIVER ACCESS

Existing Facilities:

- Boat Launch

Town of Bell

CORNUCOPIA

Existing Facilities:

- Cornucopia Beach on Lake Superior (approximately 350' of beach).
- Two tennis courts.
- Pickle Ball in the tennis courts
- Playground area.
- Various Town owned lands.
- Breakwall with fishing pier.
- Town Marina
- Airport

Recommended Improvements:

- Cornucopia Beach:
- Install kayak ramp/launch.
- Additional benches.
- Beach rehabilitation.
- Sand dune restoration.
- Town Owned Lands:
- Development and maintenance of recreational trails.
- Creation of camping sites.

TOWN MARINA

Existing Facilities:

- Boat launch.
- Boat slips.

Recommended Improvements:

- Install boat washing station.
- Add informational kiosks.
- Install a weather station.
- Improve boat launch ramp
- Hardening existing facilities against high water
- Maintain navigable channel
- sheet piling on river to add dockage and maintain channel

COMMUNITY CENTER

Existing Facilities:

- Public restrooms.
- Softball field.
- Full sized basketball court.
- Picnic tables.
- Educational signs and programs.
- Community gardens.
- Learning center
- Play ground

Recommend Improvements:

- Improve parking

- Upgrade Electrical system for efficiency

SISKIWIT BAY PARK – LAKE SUPERIOR

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter/pavilion. • Green Shed Museum • Spring water. • Barbecue grills. • Playground equipment. • Breakwall with fishing pier. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter for flowing artesian well. • Trail maintenance or improvements to the breakwall. • Picnic tables. • Volleyball court. • Toilet building. |
|--|--|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a new stage, with electricity, for music and other festivals. • Showers. • Repair and maintenance of breakwall. • New grills. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an exercise course. • add hard surface for breakwall • replace picnic shelter • flowing well shelter |
|--|--|

SISKIWIT LAKE CAMPGROUND

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping • Picnic sites • Parking • Porta-Potties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake access • Solar powered well • Grills |
|---|---|

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct new toilet building. • Additional campsites. • Beach restoration. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control. • Install kayak/canoe ramp/launch. |
|---|--|

SISKIWIT LAKE ACCESS

Existing Facilities:

- Boat landing & dock.

Recommended Improvements:

- Install new boat ramp.
- Expand/improve parking area.

- New boat washing station.
- Install kayak/canoe ramp/launch.

LOST CREEK FALLS

Recommended Improvements:

- Trail development.
- Benches.
- Improvement to parking.
- Interpretive signage.
- Wood overlook deck.

THUNDER BAY SHORES PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Scenic overlook of Bark Bay on Lake Superior – land is 70 ft wide from road to lake.

AIRPORT

Existing Facilities:

- 2010 foot grass landing strip
- pilot shelter
- picnic tables and fire ring
- new storage building with bikes available for plane passengers
- Portable Toilet

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve landing surface
- Upgrade picnic area
- Add camping area
- Add restroom facility

Town of Cable

CABLE AREA RECREATIONAL PARK (located ½ mile west of Cable)

Existing Facilities:

- Ball fields and bleachers
- Picnic areas
- Shelter 40' x 90'
- Historic depot
- Playground equipment
- Restrooms
- Walk-in campground (5 sites)
- Bicycle skills course
- Tennis courts/pickleball courts
- Lighted basketball court
- Covered pavilion
- Skateboard park

Recommended Improvements:

- Replace/update playground equipment
- Improve accessibility to depot

CABLE ROD & GUN CLUB

Existing Facilities:

- Trap range
- Club house
- Pistol Range
- High power rifle range
- Skeet range

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Existing Facilities:

- Playground equipment
- Basketball hoop
- Hiking/snowshoe/fat-bike trails (3K)

PERRY LAKE/CABLE LAKE/TAHKODAH LAKE

Existing Facilities:

- Public boat landings at all three locations.
- Perry Lake: restrooms, changing rooms, picnic area and swimming area.
- Cable Lake and Tahkodah Lake: seasonal restroom.

CABLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Existing Facilities:

- Area maps/information
- Restrooms
- Public telephone
- Bike rack
- Benches
- Drinking fountain

NAMAKAGON RIVER ACCESS (Randysek Road south one mile and Highway M east three miles.)

Existing Facilities:

- Canoe landing
- Tubing
- Picnic tables
- Restrooms
- Fishing

NORTH END SKI CLUB (located 3 miles south on Randysek Rd)

Existing Facilities:

- Warming cabin
- Pit toilet
- Ski/snowshoe trails (hiking in season)

AMERICAN BIRKEBEINER SKI FOUNDATION TRAILHEAD (located on McNaught Rd)

Home of the start of the legendary American Birkebeiner ski race, the American Birkebeiner Trailhead is the jewel in the crown that is the Birkie Trail. It's a great launching point for the Birkie Skate and Classic trails, as well as the North End Trails. Enthusiasts will experience glacial pot holes, ridges, and a continuous series of rolling hills. Amenities at the American Birkebeiner Trailhead include the Derksen Cabin, a beautiful warming shelter available 24/7, complete with heat, water, and a flush toilet! The American Birkebeiner Trailhead's Great Hall, also located at the trailhead, is a hub for a variety of events all-year-through.

Existing Facilities:

- Event start/finish facility
- Warming cabin
- Ski trails (hiking in season)
- Restrooms

TIMBER TRAIL AMERICAN BIRKEBEINER TRAILHEAD

For those looking for challenging terrain, look no further than Timber Trail Trailhead. Rolling hills in either direction provide the ultimate training ground for those seeking a good workout! Plan to stop at the trailside cabin to warm up or for a picnic lunch.

AMERICAN BIRKEBEINER SKI FOUNDATION (ABSF) TRAILS

There are over 20 kilometers of ski trails, most of which can be used year-round, on ABSF property and County Forest land. We are currently in a phase of exploration on acquiring the Telemark property which could potentially add more trails and recreational opportunities.

CHEQUAMEGON AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION (CAMBA)

Existing Facilities:

- Trailhead next to Firehall on Randysek Road.
- Trails throughout Bayfield County Forest connecting to Town of Namekagon and CTH OO in the Town of Seeley.
- Trailhead at North End Cabin (3 miles south on Randysek Road)

Recommended Improvements:

- Rehabilitate and improve Esker Trail
- Wild River Trail: construct connecting trail from abandoned railroad grade to abandoned snowmobile trail.
- Rehabilitate and improve Danky Dank and Treasure's Trace trails
- Develop Bike Park, Downhill/Gravity trails on Mt. Telemark (pending resolution of property ownership).
- Develop stacked loop trails starting from Birkie Start area that will provide easier and intermediate connections to Ojibwe Trail, which will also be suitable for NICA race course, collegiate racing and other events.
- Encourage the development of on-trail camping, shuttles, and guide services.

Town of Clover

CORNELL PARK/HERBSTER PUBLIC CAMPGROUND

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| • Covered pavilion | • RV sites |
| • Flush toilets | • Playground |
| • Tent sites | • Well |

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • Shower facility | • Erosion control |
| • Expanded restroom facility | • Restroom near playground |
| • Parking area for campground & pavilion | • Park benches |
| • Improved signage | • Picnic tables |
| • Additional RV sites with electrical | • Fire rings |
| • Additional tent sites | |

BARK BAY SLOUGH PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| • Boat ramp | • Porta-Potty |
| • Parking | • Scenic overlook |

Recommended Improvements:

- Restroom Facility

BARK BAY SLOUGH PUBLIC BOAT LANDING

Existing Facilities:

- Access for small craft such as canoe or kayak

- Parking

Recommended Improvements:

- Boat ramp

- Restroom

Town of Delta

None

Town of Drummond

DRUMMOND PARK

Existing Facilities:

- 30' x 60' shelter
- Swimming beach
- Picnic area w/grills
- Playground structure and Swing set

- Parking
- Boat ramp with pier
- Vault Toilets

Recommended Improvements:

- Create nature trail
- Add picnic grills
- ADA accessible flush toilets

- Replace floor in shelter
- Vegetation removal from swimming beach

DRUMMOND LAKE CAMPGROUND

Existing Facilities:

- 4 seasonal camp sites with electric, water & sewer
- 11 camp sites with electric, water & sewer
- 6 campsites with electric only

- 20' X 20' shower house w/pay showers and restrooms
- Dump station
- Parking area

Recommended Improvements:

- Develop additional full hook-up sites
- Develop primitive tent sites

- Plant privacy landscaping
- Install barrier in parking area.

LONG BRANCH HIKING TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- Trailhead located at boar ramp on Drummond Lake

- 'Out and Back' single path hiking trail with bridges and boardwalk.

Recommended Improvements:

- Provide interpretive signs for historic aspects along trail
- Develop return loop
- Develop map with historic context of trail.

VISITOR CENTER (located in Library/Museum building)

Existing Facilities:

- benches
- historic bell tower & log

Recommended Improvements:

- Provide area for maps/brochures for after-hours visitors
- Refurbish log
- Paint building exterior

Town of Eileen

None.

Town of Grand View

GREAT DIVIDE BALL PARK FACILITY

Existing Facilities:

- Three ball fields
- Bleachers
- Restrooms
- Storage shed
- Playground equipment
- 2 concession stands
- Grandstand

Recommended Improvement:

- New playground equipment
- Refurbish/replace restrooms
- Reconstruct bleachers
- New 30'x40' shelter
- Basketball court

GRAND VIEW PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Tennis courts
- Picnic area
- 30' x 60' shelter
- Resurface Tennis Cour0074
- 2 concession stands
- Music pavilion
- Music pavilion

Recommended Improvements:

- Shelter with restrooms
- Install ADA concrete pit toilet
- Upgrade wiring in concession stands & shelter
- Enclose west side of shelter
- Scenic overlook

PARK ALONG HWY 63

Existing Facilities:

- Playground equipment
- Ice skating rink
- Basketball courts

Recommended Improvements:

- Refurbish/replace playground equipment
- Install unisex ADA concrete pit toilet
- Add a recycle collection unit
- Add a sheltered drinking fountain & picnic table
- Refurbish/replace basketball courts

HISTORIC GRAND VIEW TOWN HALL MUSEUM

Existing Facilities:

- Museum
- Caboose

Recommended Improvements:

- Restoration of caboose

Town of Hughes

ACROSS THE POND VETERANS PARK, INC.

68490 Redwine Road, (the SE corner of Redwine Rd. & US Hwy. 2), Iron River, WI 54847. A 23 acre park under construction with some public access now. Many projects are underway and/or scheduled to bring together a park in a natural setting that promotes nature, camping, bird watching, fishing, hiking

and other activities for our veterans and others who need access that only an ADA built park can provide.

Existing Facilities:

- Circle of Flags – The USA flag along with the military branches flags.
- Honor Wall – in place and first installation of tiles honoring veterans, living and deceased (May 29, 2021).
- Walking/mobility devices trail (U-shaped) through the forest.
- 22' wide entrance with gravel road to a 100' diameter cul-de-sac.

Recommended Improvements:

- Continue with construction that will include RV & tent camping sites.
- Install electric power and install lighting fixtures.
- Water well with hand pump and electric pressure tank.
- Restrooms with showers.
- Picnic Areas.
- Septic system.
- Concrete entrance driveway and sidewalks.
- Shed for storage and electrical panel.
- Trail to Iron River Flowage and dock for various water activities.
- Vietnam Memorial with donated concrete mural donated by Port Wing artist.

Town of Iron River

MOON LAKE PARK (1 mi south on CTH H)

Existing Facilities:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| • Swimming beach | • Camping |
| • Dock | • Picnic sites |
| • Restrooms | • Boat ramp |
| • Shelter | |

Recommended Improvements:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • New restrooms/change house/shower building | • Develop marked bike trail from park to Iron River |
| • Gravel special events parking lot | • New park well |
| • Develop skiing/hiking trail | • Update electricity |
| • Gravel and mark campsites | • New restrooms |
| • New boat ramp | • RV site |
| • Develop tent campsites | • Sidewalk from Highway 2 to park |

IRON RIVER LIONS MEMORIAL PARK (adjacent to the Iron River School)

Existing Facilities:

- Ball field
- Outdoor hockey rink

Recommended Improvements:

- Add two tennis courts
- Additional Little League/softball field with backstop & fencing
- Enclose hockey rink
- Equipment building for hockey facility
- Serve park with municipal sewer and flush toilets
- Add gravel parking lot

HALF MOON LAKE PARK (east end of Half Moon Lake)

Existing Facilities:

- Public lake access
- Picnicking

Recommended Improvements:

- Place park sign on USH 2 for public access
- Add several picnic tables

WAYSIDE PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Picnic tables
- Well

Recommended Improvements:

- Add more picnic tables

Town of Kelly

None

Town of Keystone

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Campground
- Playground

Town of Lincoln

LINCOLN COMMUNITY FOREST

Existing Facilities:

Owned and managed by Landmark Conservancy, this property is 396 acres in size and includes 2 miles of the Marengo River. It is characterized by gently rolling terrain with interspersed steep-sided ravines along the river. The property is primarily forested and includes numerous seeps, several wetlands and ephemeral ponds, and one small lake. The forest provides habitat for wildlife including rare and endangered Wisconsin species, anadromous fish from Lake Superior, and resident and migratory birds as well as others. The property contains a couple of miles of well-maintained trails and is open to the public for non-motorized recreation including cross-country skiing, fishing, fat biking, hiking, hunting, snowshoeing, and trapping. The property is managed as a working forest for long-lived species and climate resiliency. The Friends of the Lincoln Community Forest help Landmark Conservancy steward this property.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional rest/seating areas
- Additional trails and trail connections as well as infrastructure to keep visitors and resources safe
- Improved access to the small lake
- Improved trail surfaces and water control features where needed
- Invasive plant control and removal
- Native plantings
- Interpretive signage
- Wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement activities as needed

Town of Mason

None

Town of Namakagon

Existing Facilities:

- Several boat landings on Namakagon Lake

Recommended Improvements:

- Build a Town park

CHEQUAMEGON AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE (CAMBA) TRAILS

Town of Orienta

BOAT LANDING (mouth of Iron River)

Existing Facilities:

- Picnic table

Town of Oulu

TOWN PARK

Existing Facilities:

- 2 Baseball fields with bleachers
- Playground equipment

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve baseball field
- Upgrade playground equipment
- Cover second set of bleachers
- Cement pad under bleachers

Town of Pilsen

Existing Facilities:

- Baseball diamond
- Basketball court
- Playground area

Town of Port Wing

Recommended Improvements:

- Develop silent trails with easy access to Scenic Byway
- Provide travel center with public facilities
- Develop a “Historic Walk through Town” with interpretive signage

BASEBALL PARK

QUARRY BEACH

TWIN FALLS PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Trails
- Restroom

Recommended Improvements:

- Repair restroom
- Add picnic table
- Improve trail access and signage
- Remove deadfall from trails

OLD SCHOOL MEMORIAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Playground equipment

Recommended Improvements:

- Replace playground equipment

HARBOR PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Bathroom facilities
- Picnic tables
- Historical lighthouse
- Benches

Recommended Improvements:

- Sand blast and paint the historical lighthouse
- Install interpretive kiosks and marker
- Upgrade bathroom facilities
- Update & improve picnic tables & benches
- Upgrade water system
- Build accessible observation deck overlooking Lake Superior with historical interpretive signage
- Upgrade fish cleaning station

Town of Russell

LITTLE SAND BAY RECREATION AREA

Existing Facilities:

The Little Sand Bay Recreation Area is located on the shores of Lake Superior at the northern tip of the Bayfield Peninsula. The facility is approximately 12 miles north of the City of Bayfield, Wisconsin. The Town of Russell owns and operates a campground, boat launching ramp and dock, the east pier of the boat harbor basin for transient slips, a swimming beach, picnic grounds and ball field/play area.

The Town of Russell Little Sand Bay Recreation Area is located within the boundaries of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (AINL). The National Park Service (NPS) administers the AINL and operates a visitor center at Little Sand Bay.

The boat launching ramp and dock serve recreational boaters and fishermen. The launch ramp is paved with a portable dock system to assist boaters with launching. The launch ramp is located within the protected harbor and boat basin at Little Sand Bay. Paved, drive through parking is provided for vehicles with trailers attached. A launching area dedicated to canoes and kayaks is also provided by the AINL.

The Town maintains the docking slips on the east pier of the boat basin for transient and overnight docking of boats for campers.

A beautiful sand beach for swimming is located east of the boat basin for use by day visitors, campers and picnickers. A picnic shelter and playground for young children is adjacent to the beach area.

A parking area is available adjacent to the swimming beach for day users and picnickers.

The campground has 39 sites in total. Thirty-one of these sites will accommodate RVs and have electrical service. Water hydrants are located throughout the facility. An RV dump station is provided for campers. Six of the sites are suitable for tents and small trailers. Two sites are handicap accessible and one site is designated as a group camp site with a shelter.

All sites have parking areas for vehicles, picnic tables, fire rings and access to trash receptacles and recycling containers. Flush toilets and wash facilities are provided by the AINL and pit toilets also serve the campers and picnickers. The Town has shower facilities for campers. Firewood and ice are available for purchase from the Town.

A large level open area between the campground and boat basin is available for recreational purposes such as ball games and other group events.

Recommended Improvements:

- Install additional playground equipment
- Provide WiFi service to campers
- Replace wood picnic tables with composite & steel tables
- Develop an on-line reservation system to accept cred/debit card payments of fees
- Expand seating (benches) in the beach/playground area

TOWN OF RUSSELL SHOOTING RANGE

Existing Facility:

The Town of Russell operates a public shooting range off Old County K at the end of Valley View Road. The range has a 100 yard rifle range with protective berm and is also suitable for trap shooting. The facility has a covered shelter with shooting benches and picnic tables for observers. A fire pit and benches are available along with a large vehicle parking area. The range is open to the public starting on May 1 and closes the day before the deer gun season.

Recommended improvements:

- Install electric service to the shelter building with shelter lighting
- Install pit toilets
- Provide permanent target holding system
- Install metal distance marking posts at 15, 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards
- Install a firewood shed
- Install a permanent trap throwing system and range lighting system

HISTORICAL CARVER SCHOOL REST AREA

Existing facilities:

The Town of Russell operates a wayside rest area at the intersection of East Old County K and State Highway 13 which acknowledges the location of the historic Carver School. An informational display of the original Carver School Bell along with historical information is present. Picnic tables and drinking water are available.

Recommended improvements:

- Install a picnic shelter
- Install a pit toilets
- Install cooking grill/fire pit
- Landscaping and tree planting
- Install garbage and re-cycling containers

RASPBERRY SCHOOL HISTORICAL SITE

Existing facilities:

The original Raspberry School has been relocated and is on display at Old World Wisconsin.

Recommended improvements:

- Install a sign with historical information at the site of the school and provide a safe parking pull-off area.
- Install signage on State Highway 13 and Old County K of a historical site

NORTH PIKES CREEK WETLANDS COMMUNITY FOREST

Existing Facilities:

Owned and managed by Landmark Conservancy, this property is 280 acres of forested wetlands in the headwaters of the North Pikes Creek watershed. It is characterized by very flat topography and wetland soils, and as a result, wet conditions prevail over much of the property except during dry periods. Over a mile of the stream runs through the property, and then continues approximately 7 miles farther before flowing into Lake Superior near the South Shore Lake Superior Fish and Wildlife Area. The forest provides habitat for much wildlife including rare and endangered Wisconsin species and resident and migratory birds. The property contains primitive trails and is more easily accessible in the winter months. The community forest is open for non-motorized recreation including cross-country skiing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and snowshoeing.

Recommended improvements:

- Develop a parking area
- Trail development
- Additional trails and trail connections as well as infrastructure to keep visitors and resources safe
- Improved access to North Pikes Creek
- Signage
- Invasive plant control and removal
- Native plantings
- Interpretive signage

NORTH PIKES CREEK WETLANDS CONSERVATION AREA and the BEAVER HOLLOW OUTDOOR EDUCATION AREA

Existing Facilities:

Beaver Hollow, owned and managed by the Friends of the North Pikes Creek Wetlands, is located within the Friends' greater 130-acre North Pikes Creek Wetlands Conservation Area property in the headwaters of the North Pikes Creek watershed. The Friends protect this biologically diverse forested wetland property to preserve its substantial conservation values. Beaver Hollow is located on an upland portion of this conserved property, at 88850 Compton Road, 3/4 miles south of Hwy 13. Beaver Hollow provides the community with an outdoor nature venue for environmental education activities, such as outdoor classes, workshops, and meetings, and non-motorized recreational activities, including hiking, snowshoeing, bird watching, wildlife viewing, photography, and nature appreciation.

All Beaver Hollow facilities are ADA compliant, including a looped drive that accommodates a full-size school bus, an information kiosk, 500 feet of walkway, an open-sided pavilion with six picnic tables, 600 feet of boardwalk extending into the wetlands with a wildlife viewing platform, and interpretive signage. The trail from the parking area to the viewing platform and back is a ½-mile round trip, with benches placed about every 100 feet.

Recommended Improvements:

- Restroom facility.
- Additional boardwalk, with benches and scenic viewing platforms, extended further into the wetlands to provide safe access for people of all ages and physical abilities to enjoy the unique forested wetland ecosystem.
- Native plant gardens.
- Bike rack.

- Develop a forest trail system with benches and interpretive signage.

Town of Tripp

JACKMAN LAKE PARK (north of Iron River)

Existing Facilities:

- Swimming
- Picnicking

Recommended Improvements:

- New restrooms
- Parking area improvements
- Swimming dock

Town of Washburn

AREA OFF ARNSO ROAD

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Bicycle lanes
- Walking trails
- Picnic tables

Village Facilities

Village of Mason

MASON PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Pavilion
- Restrooms
- Parking
- Camping

Recommended Improvements:

- Dock

- New pavilion roof
- Historical marker for old mill

PLAYGROUND BY MUSEUM

Existing Facilities:

- Basketball courts
- Playground equipment

Recommended Improvements:

- 1 or 2 new items of playground equipment

Tribal Facilities

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

FROG BAY TRIBAL NATIONAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

Frog Bay Tribal National Park (FBTNP) is the first tribal national park in the United States! The park was created in 2012, with the addition of the Conservation Management Area (CMA) in 2017. The CMA permanently protects ¾ mile of undeveloped sandy Lake Superior shoreline, 1 mile of stream corridor, 118 acres of wetlands and freshwater estuary, nearly 300 acres of land around Frog Bay, and boasts panoramic views of 5 of the Apostle Islands. There are 2 miles of hiking trails within FBTNP; dotted with 20+ interpretive Ojibwe cultural signs, 20 boardwalks/footbridges, and a 130 foot steel truss bridge. The park is open year round from dawn to dusk, free of admission. A donation box exists near the comfort station and trailhead kiosk at the parking area.

Recommended Improvements:

- Acquire additional non-tribal lands in Frog Bay for continued park expansion.
- Add hiking trails and boardwalks where appropriate.
- Add trail distance markers.

CLAYTON CREEK TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

The Clayton Creek Trail was constructed in 2017 for the enjoyment of all. Whether you are simply looking to spend some time in nature, or would like to take an alternative route between Legendary

Waters Casino and the Health Center, Farm, or Pow Wow Grounds, this trail is a great opportunity to get outside! This 1 mile moderate trail brings hikers through a variety of habitats as it follows Clayton Creek, passing through the old fields and apple trees of the community farm, through stands of hardwoods, boreal forest, and along steep ravines.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional boardwalks
- Interpretive signage
- Add trail distance markers

BUFFALO BAY CAMPGROUND

Existing Facilities:

- Camp/tent (11) and RV sites (34).
- Bathroom and shower facility.
- Swimming area at adjacent marina.
- Interpretive walking trail showcasing green infrastructure efforts.

Recommended Improvements:

- Additional campsites.
- Reforest camping area and remove hazard trees.
- Develop a camp store.
- Create additional recreational opportunities for guests such as outdoor volleyball, playgrounds, horseshoes, cornhole toss, mini golf, etc.
- Develop a laundry facility.
- Repair pump out and potable water station.
- Expand sites with electrical, water & sewer hookups.
- Develop outdoor pool area.
- Improve signage.
- Create separate swimming area, away from marina.
- Create separate kayak launch area, away from marina.
- Add mini chalets or cabins for additional rental opportunities.
- Restore shoreline to prevent continued erosion of facility.
- Develop recreational fishing/overlook pier.
- Improve campground and campsite driveways.
- Update all picnic tables and fire rings.

BUFFALO BAY MARINA

Existing Facilities:

- Dockage (46 Seasonal and 10 transient slips).
- Boat landing.
- Swimming area.
- Viewing platform.

Recommended Improvements:

- Expand number of boat slips.
- Install boat lift/straddle hoist.
- Provide year-round boat storage.
- Develop fueling and pump out station.
- Develop repair facility.
- Improve parking facilities.
- Improve marina “clubhouse” area.
- Develop 30’ X 40’ shoreline building with restrooms, showers, laundry and marina office to collect launch fees and sell bait & ice.

- Improve electrical and water hookups.
- Add commercial telescope to viewing platform.
- Improve boat launch site.

- Create opportunities for winter activities such as ice skating, sledding, snow tubing, winter parking, and ice fishing

POINT DETOUR CAMPGROUND

Existing Facilities:

- Rustic camping (25 sites).
- Rustic vault toilet.

Recommended Improvements:

- Improved restroom facilities.
- Develop central socialization, cooking, and storm safety area.
- Explore opportunities to develop a hiking trail from Pt Detour Campground to Little Sand Bay Campground (Town of Russell) and Visitor Center (Apostle Islands National Park Service), working cooperatively with the relevant entities.
- Improve shoreline safety and protection measures.
- Expand camping opportunities to include hike-in campsites.
- Update all picnic tables and fire rings.
- Improve existing drive in/tent pad areas to create a more level camping surface.
- Improve signage.
- Reforest between campsites and remove hazard trees.

Additional Recommended Improvements:

- Explore opportunities to create a permanent snowmobile trail connecting Red Cliff to the Bayfield County snowmobile trail system.
- Explore opportunities to create a pedestrian and bicyclist trail connecting the communities of Red Cliff and Bayfield, originating at the Red Cliff Community Health Center.
- Explore opportunities to improve pedestrian/bicyclist movement throughout the community, especially from Legendary Waters Casino to Frog Bay Tribal National Park and between municipal facilities and developed areas.